



Daily Report

East Asia

**FBIS-EAS-88-074
Monday
18 April 1988**

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-88-074

CONTENTS

18 April 1988

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

Japanese National's Link to Bombing Suspected	1
U.S. Judge Denies Bail	1
Red Army Denies Role in Naples Blast	2
Takeshita Speaks at LDP-Sponsored Seminar	2
Takeshita Comments on Farm Liberalization	2
Further on Remarks	2
Decision on Farm Dispute by End of April	3
Officials Stress Need for U.S. Debt Reduction	3
Miyazawa on U.S. Dollar Support Intervention	4
Minister Says U.S. Firms Lack 'Aggressiveness'	4
Komeito's Yano Meets With Bush, Carlucci	4
LDP Council Chairman Leaves for PRC	5
Foreign Minister Views Soviet-Held Islands	5
Soviet Naval Vessels Spotted in East China Sea	6
Indian Prime Minister Gandhi Ends Visit	6

North Korea

Kim Il-song Receives PLA Friendship Group	6
CSSR Sports Official Criticizes Olympic Venue	6
O Chin-u Greets Iranian Defense Minister	6
WPK Sends Condolences to Cypriot Party	6
Kim Il-song Greets Sihanouk on National Day	7
CHOSON SINBO Interviews JSP's Doi	7
CPRF Criticizes U.S.-Japan 'Tie-Up'	7
Further on Defection of Professor From South	8
U.S. To Transfer Fighters to South Korea	8
Chemical Warfare Exercise Held in South	8
Daily Views Abolition	8
Workers in South 'Continue Struggle'	9
Strikes Reported	9
Kim Il-song Sees Chongnyon, Trade Delegations	9
More Celebrations of Kim Il-song's Birthday	10
Castro Attends Havana Gathering	10
Receives Gift From Bulgaria	10
Foreign Leaders Send Greetings	10
Children's Groups Celebrate	10
Chongnyon Celebrates	11
'Endless Stream' of Visitors Crowd Mangyongdae	11
Opening of Greenhouse for Kim Chong-il Flower	12
Kim Chong-il Guidance to Automobile Sector	12
Exhibition of Inventions Opens in Pyongyang	13
Provincial Leader Addresses Mass Rally	13
Action for Unity of Democratic Forces 'Urgent' [VNS]	14

South Korea

North Defectors Hold Second News Conference	16
Beef Imports To Begin Due to U.S. 'Pressure' [THE KOREA TIMES 17 Apr]	17
Ties With Nonaligned African Countries Sought	17

Chon Kyong-hwan, 11 Others To Be Indicted [THE KOREA HERALD 16 Apr]	18
Opposition Starts Petition for Chon Probe	18
Demands Chon Travel Ban	19
Ilhae Institute To Change Name, Functions [THE KOREA HERALD 16 Apr]	19
Joint Stumping Rallies Begin 16 April [THE KOREA TIMES 16 Apr]	20
RDP Discloses Election Campaign Pledges [THE KOREA HERALD 13 Apr]	20
DJP Official Causes Controversy by Remarks [THE KOREA TIMES 16 Apr]	21
Old, New DJP 'Power Struggle' Analyzed	21
DJP Sees Gains in Opposition Strongholds [THE KOREA HERALD 17 Apr]	21
Trying To Stop Opposition Boom [THE KOREA TIMES 13 Apr]	22
Daily Interviews PPD Election Chairman [KYONGHYANG SINMUN 5 Apr]	23
Government, Police View Steps Against Radicals [THE KOREA HERALD 16 Apr]	25
DJP Blames Opposition for Violence [THE KOREA HERALD 17 Apr]	25

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

March Student Riots, Unrest Reviewed [BANGKOK POST 17 Apr]	26
--	----

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Brunei

ROK's Choe Kwang-su Arrives for 3-Day Visit [THE KOREA TIMES 17 Apr]	28
--	----

Malaysia

Mahathir Launches Loyalty With People Campaign	28
Opposition Party Urges Freedom for Detainees [AFP]	28
ROK's Choe Comments on Development Plans [YONHAP]	29
Farewell Ceremony for Australian Air Squadron	29
Rithauddeen Comments on Bases	29
Defense Ministers Depart	30
Rithauddeen Meets With Official	30

Singapore

ROK's Choe Arrives, Comments on Trade	30
---------------------------------------	----

Cambodia

Foreign Ministry Condemns PRC on Spratlys	31
Further on Statement	31
CGDK Leaders Send New Year Messages	32
Son Sann Sends Greetings [VOK]	32
Khieu Samphan Statement [VONADK]	33
Prince Ranariddh's Message [VOK]	33
Khieu Samphan Greets PRC Foreign Minister [VONADK]	34
Kompong Som-Phnom Penh Train Hits Mine [VODK]	34

Indonesia

Alatas 'Plays Down' Border Crossing Incident	34
SRV Vice Minister Visits Military Institute [VNA]	35
Intergovernmental Aid Group Chairman Arrives	35
Court Sentences Two Muslim Militants to Jail [AFP]	36

Laos

Indochinese Planning Conference Press Release	36
---	----

Minutes of Indochina Health Conference Signed	36
Phoumi Meets Delegations	37
New Year Celebration Held at Thai Border	37

Philippines

Military Bases Agreement Review Resumes	37
Editorial on Optimism Over Bases Review [PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 15 Apr]	37
'Practice Bomb' Said Dropped in Luisita	38
Clark Planes Overfly Area	38
Air Force Claims Responsibility [KYODO]	38
Aquino Returns From PRC, Reports on Visit	39
Holds News Conference	39
Emphasizes Economic Revival	40
Editorials on Impact of Aquino's Trip to PRC	40
'Fruitful Journey' Lauded [PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 18 Apr]	40
Results of Visit Viewed [PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE 18 Apr]	40
PRC Invites Philippine Senators To Visit [PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE 15 Apr]	41
Alleged Coup Plotters' Trial Postponed	41
Honasan Financial Supporters Said Identified [PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 18 Apr]	42
Owner of Honasan's Men's Refuge To Be Charged	42
'Major' Revamp at Foreign Department Reported [MALAYA 15 Apr]	42
Ex-Armed Forces Vice Chief Takes Defense Post [PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 15 Apr]	43
Armed Forces Chief on Military Factionalism	43
NPA Recruitment Reportedly Dropping [PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 15 Apr]	44
Allegedly Losing Support [PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE 15 Apr]	44
Rebel Hit Squad Claims Clark Killings [PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE 15 Apr]	45
10 Rebels 'Presumed' Killed in Cotabato	45
Two Killed in Davao Army-Rebel Clash	45
Two Rebels Reported Killed in Antique	46
Island Command Replaces Task Force in Panay	46

Thailand

Message Sent to UN on Lao Border Conflict [BANGKOK POST 16 Apr]	46
'Text' of Message	46
Ministry Denies Stalling Talks [BANGKOK POST 15 Apr]	47
Lao Soldier Killed at Border [BANGKOK POST 18 Apr]	48
Prem 'Not Worried' by Censure Motion [BANGKOK POST 16 Apr]	48
Debate Set for 9 May [BANGKOK POST 17 Apr]	50
Prem Advisers Comment [THE NATION 17 Apr]	51

Vietnam

U.S. Delegation Holds Talks on Amerasians	52
Leaves After Talks [AFP]	52
Signing of Geneva Accords on Afghanistan Noted	52
Daily Condemns PRC Researchers in Spratlys	53
India's Gandhi, Nguyen Van Linh Hold Talks	53
Talks Said Centered on Cambodia [Delhi]	53
Countries' Similarities Noted	53
Further on Talks [Delhi]	54
Daily Hails Development of Relations With India	55
Vo Van Kiet Receives Romanian Ambassador	55
Romania's Ceausescu, Delegation Arrive in Hanoi	55
Leaders Welcome Delegation	56
Hanoi Radio Views Arrival	56
Meets With Nguyen Van Linh [Bucharest AGERPRES]	56

AUSTRALASIA

Australia

Communique Issued on Ceausescu Visit [Bucharest AGERPRES]	58
N. Territory Chief Criticized for Base Offer	59
Hayden on Effect of Japan's Coal Price Offer	59
Briefs	59
Mirage Fleet for Sale	59

Fiji

Soviet Trade Delegation Begins Visit [AFP]	59
Seeks Joint Ventures [AFP]	59

Papua New Guinea

Government Helps Free Indonesian Hostages [AFP]	60
---	----

Western Samoa

Prime Minister's Additional Responsibilities	60
--	----

Japan

Japanese National's Link to Bombing Suspected

OW171309 Tokyo KYODO in English 1217 GMT
17 Apr 88

[Text] New York, April 17 KYODO—The suspicion seemed to grow Sunday that a 35-year-old Japanese, arrested in New Jersey five days ago for possession of homemade bombs, is connected in some way with the car-bomb attack which killed five people in Naples, Italy, last Thursday.

According to copies of his forged passport and international driving license obtained by KYODO News Service, Yu Kikumura was in Milan late last February, one and half months before the car-bomb blast near a U.S. military club in Naples Thursday night.

Kikumura also visited at least five other countries with the passport and driving license carrying the name of "Masatoshi Kishizono" whenever the summit meetings of seven major industrialized democracies were held for the past few years.

The passport showed Kikumura arrived in Madrid on April 5, 1987 after he left Japan on December 12, 1986.

Kikumura left Madrid on April 14 and arrived in Yugoslavia on April 16.

The passport also showed that he returned to Japan on May 8, 1987. He left the country again on January 23 this year and entered the United States on March 8 via Paris.

Japanese police, however, said they had determined that three stamps on his passport concerning his departure from and return to Japan were forged.

Police also said the other immigration stamps on Kikumura's passport are probably authentic.

U.S. Judge Denies Bail

OW160429 Tokyo KYODO in English 0352 GMT
16 Apr 88

[Text] Newark, N.J., April 15 KYODO—a Japanese national with suspected ties to the terrorist Japanese Red Army was denied bail Friday by a U.S. judge and faces federal charges that carry penalties up to 15 years in prison and a 250,000 dollar fine for possession of a fraudulent visa and antipersonnel bombs.

U.S. District Judge Ronald Hedges denied bail to Yu Kikumura, 35, because "the government has proved by a preponderance of the evidence that this defendant is a risk of flight."

Kikumura will remain in federal custody at the Metropolitan Correctional Center in lower Manhattan through the duration of his trial.

An indictment by a grand jury—a more formalized means of charging the defendant—is expected to be made within the next ten days as is required by federal criminal procedure.

The trial, also by jury, will begin within 70 days of the indictment.

Kikumura was arrested Tuesday at a rest stop on the New Jersey Turnpike by a suspicious state police officer who noticed empty gunpowder boxes on the back seat of Kikumura's car when the police officer signaled the car to pull over.

In the car, police found three sophisticated and powerful antipersonnel bombs, a complete detonating system and additional materials and tools to make bombs.

An FBI bomb expert has testified that the bombs were powerful enough to have "destroyed the car and a substantial part of a normal dwelling."

Through fingerprints and a photograph, Japanese authorities have identified the defendant as Yu Kikumura who they "strongly suspect" of having a "relationship" with the Japanese Red Army, according to a statement by a Foreign Ministry spokesman.

In May 1986, Kikumura was arrested at the Schiphol Airport in Amsterdam, the Netherlands carrying 2.2 pounds of TNT and six fuses. He was subsequently released on a technicality concerning the legality of the initial search and was deported to Japan.

At the bail hearing today in the Federal Courthouse in downtown Newark, Special FBI agent Robert Heckman testified that a Swiss bank card with an account number was found among the documents Kikumura was carrying when he was arrested.

He also had 3,000 dollars in 100 dollar bills and 49 dollars in lower denominations.

THE NEW YORK TIMES reported today that Kikumura had been living with an American accountant on Manhattan's east side and had remained there for three weeks after his arrival in New York on March 8.

Kikumura used a stolen passport bearing the name Masatoshi Kishizono to obtain a 90-day tourist visa from the U.S. Embassy in Paris on February 29, according to officials.

Red Army Denies Role in Naples Blast
OW170703 Tokyo KYODO in English 0632 GMT
17 Apr 88

[Text] Beirut, April 17 KYODO—The Japanese Red Army denied from Beirut its responsibility in a car-bomb explosion that killed five people outside a U.S. military club in the Italian port city of Naples.

The denial came in a statement in English delivered to a foreign news agency in West Beirut and carried by radio stations Sunday.

The Red Army in the same statement denied any link with "The Organization of Jihad Brigades," which claimed responsibility for the blast Thursday night at the U.S.O club in downtown Naples that killed four Italians and a U.S. servicewoman and wounded 17 people.

Last Friday Italian investigators said that Junzo Okudaira, 39, a member of the Japanese Red Army group, was the prime suspect in the Naples attack.

Takeshita Speaks at LDP-Sponsored Seminar
OW171107 Tokyo KYODO in English 1048 GMT
17 Apr 88

[Text] Atami, Shizuoka Pref., April 17 KYODO—Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita on Sunday reiterated his call for Japan to make greater contributions to the international community in nonmilitary spheres.

Takeshita, delivering a 60-minute speech at a seminar sponsored by his ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) here, said under its constitutional constraints Japan will not send warships to the Persian Gulf through which most of Japan's oil imports come.

Japan must promote not only economic assistance but more noneconomic cooperation in the fields of cultural and human exchanges, he said.

Takeshita was speaking to 250 LDP women activists at the three-day study session which opened earlier in the day at a hotel in this hot spring resort 100 kilometers southwest of Tokyo.

The prime minister said the government will begin work to map out measures in a week or two to help foreign students in Japan who face living hardships because of the yen's rise in value against the U.S. dollar.

He reaffirmed determination to realize a government plan, drawn up by his predecessor Yasuhiro Nakasone, to accept 100,000 foreign students by the 21st century, compared with the present 22,000.

Takeshita urged major business corporations to open their dormitories for unmarried employees to foreign students who face housing problems, noting that there are as many as 2,500 such facilities in Japan.

Takeshita, mentioning the farm trade dispute with the United States, vowed to settle it through bilateral talks, rather than on the multilateral level at the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The prime minister said he and President Ronald Reagan have agreed that the two countries should share pains and cooperate with each other.

Takeshita Comments on Farm Liberalization
OW181007 Tokyo KYODO in English 0946 GMT
18 Apr 88

[Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO—Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita said Monday he is prepared to submit himself to national criticism for giving way too much to the United States, implying that he might be ready to liberalize imports of beef, oranges and orange juice as requested by Washington.

Takeshita, in an hour-long meeting with a group of reporters assigned to his official residence, said he will make his own decision on the matter, if needed, but respect a decision by Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Tkashi Sto, who is the top official responsible for the farm trade issue.

Government officials, Liberal Democratic Party representatives and farm organization leaders successively visited the United States from late March through last week and paved the way for further negotiations, Takeshita said, adding that the situation developed as he had expected.

Takeshita said Chief Cabinet Secretary Keizo Obuchi will coordinate government and LDP views and work out Japan's final policy.

Meanwhile, Sato said in the Diet the same day that he wants to find a solution to the farm dispute which would allow for import duties or measures to support domestic beef and tangerine producers.

Sato, replying to an opposition questioner at the House of Councillors Audit Committee session, said he will visit the United States again if it is necessary.

Earlier in the day, government and LDP leaders agreed to decide by the end of this month on when Japan should liberalize imports of beef, oranges and orange juice, LDP sources said.

Further on Remarks

OW171245 Tokyo KYODO in English 1208 GMT
17 Apr 88

[Text] Atami, Shizuoka Pref., April 17 KYODO—Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita reaffirmed on Sunday that he will seek a solution to a farm trade dispute with the United States through bilateral talks and not on the multilateral level at the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Takeshita said he and President Ronald Reagan have agreed to promote joint work and to share pains between them.

Takeshita hinted at a sweeping action, saying the government and its ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) have agreed to fully support Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Takashi Sato over the matter.

The prime minister, speaking at an LDP study session at this hot spring resort, said government and LDP leaders will support Sato's decision and his proposal to settle the dispute, suggesting possible lifting of farm import quotas and measures to protect domestic producers.

Sato is reported planning to visit the United States next week again in a last-minute effort to avoid a showdown with the United States at the GATT. Gatt is scheduled to convene a meeting in Geneva May 4 to discuss an American complaint that Japan's import quotas on beef, oranges and orange juice run counter to GATT rules.

Sato visited the United States late last month to earlier this month for talks with U.S. Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter and Agriculture Secretary Richard Lynn but failed to reach agreement.

The United States has pressed Japan to liberalize beef and citrus imports. Washington has called for some compensatory action from Japan if it delays decontrol of farm imports.

Deputy Trade Representative Michael Smith arrives Monday to resume talks with Japanese officials.

LDP Secretary General Shintaro Abe, who also spoke on the opening day session of the three-day seminar, said Japan will call for U.S. concessions to settle the farm trade dispute.

Decision on Farm Dispute by End of April
OW180727 Tokyo KYODO in English 0605 GMT
18 Apr 88

[Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO—Government and Liberal Democratic Party leaders agreed Monday to decide by the end of this month on when Japan should liberalize imports of beef, oranges and orange juice, LDP sources said.

LDP Secretary General Shintaro Abe called for convening another session of government and LDP leaders later this week to map out a final policy, the sources said.

Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita accepted Abe's proposal and instructed Chief Cabinet Secretary Keizo Obuchi to coordinate views between government ministries and the ruling party.

Deputy U.S. Trade Representative Michael Smith, who arrived here earlier in the day, is scheduled to resume farm trade talks with officials of the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry on Tuesday.

The United States, pressing Japan to liberalize farm imports, has filed a complaint with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) against Japan's farm import controls. It has asked for compensatory measures from Japan unless Tokyo liberalizes farm imports immediately.

Japan has favored bilateral talks with the United States to settle the dispute before GATT is scheduled to discuss the farm trade problem at a meeting on May 4.

Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Takashi Sato is reported to be planning to visit the United States again next week to settle the matter.

Takeshita, at an LDP seminar Sunday, said he will respect Sato's decision, hinting at taking action to protect domestic beef and tangerine producers in exchange for removing import quotas.

A four-year beef and citrus trade agreement, under which Japan imposed import quotas, expired at the end of March.

Officials Stress Need for U.S. Debt Reduction
OW152059 Tokyo KYODO in English 1452 GMT
15 Apr 88

[Text] Tokyo, April 15 KYODO—Japan has called on the United States to make positive efforts to reduce its substantial debt burden in a bid to promote a more healthy economy, Japanese officials said Friday.

During a two-day meeting of the U.S.-Japan consultative group on international monetary affairs, the eighth in a series, which ended here Friday, Japanese delegates stressed the importance of positive efforts by the U.S. to trim its huge debt load, the officials said.

U.S. participants expressed concern over the continuance of Japan's brisk economic activities.

The bilateral talks, involving prominent leaders from the academic and private sectors, dealt with currency, monetary and economic issues between Japan and the U.S., including expected roles of the two nations in the world economy.

Some 27 Japanese representatives participated, among them Ryutaro Komiya, professor of Tokyo University, while the U.S. delegation consisted of 12 members, including Fred Bergsten, former U.S. assistant secretary of the treasury for international affairs.

In reference to the roles the two nations should play in the international economic system, some Japanese participants said Japan should make larger financial contributions to international organizations in proportion to its economic strength.

Some U.S. representatives supported the remarks of Japanese delegates in the meeting, saying an expansion of Japan's role would be an important aspect of the international economic structure in the future.

After the bilateral conference ended, Bergsten told a press conference at the Finance Ministry that a significant curtailment of the U.S. federal budget deficit was imperative for the stability of foreign exchange rates in currency markets worldwide.

He also expressed apprehension about the future outlook of the U.S. currency, saying that downward pressure on the dollar will intensify unless some decisive actions are taken by the new administration.

Miyazawa on U.S. Dollar Support Intervention
OW180347 Tokyo KYODO in English 0313 GMT
18 Apr 88

[Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO—Japanese Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Monday he thinks the United States is now determined to intervene in currency markets to support the value of the dollar.

Miyazawa indicated at a press conference that the U.S. is now extremely wary over factors that could produce a repetition of last year's crash in Wall Street stock prices and is concerned to maintain stability in foreign exchange markets.

Miyazawa said market intervention on a relatively large scale is now being conducted by Japan, the U.S., West Germany, and other advanced nations.

He held the press conference at the ministry following his return from a series of monetary talks last week in Washington, including meetings of the Group of Seven (G-7) major monetary powers and the Interim Committee of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Minister Says U.S. Firms Lack 'Aggressiveness'
OW180735 Tokyo KYODO in English 0708 GMT
18 Apr 88

[Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO—Construction Minister Ihei Ochi Monday linked the lack of aggressive efforts by U.S. heavy-construction firms to win contracts in Japan to the national characteristics of Americans.

"Frankly speaking, American construction firms lack aggressiveness (in winning contracts here) and this is partly because of their national characteristics," Ochi told a luncheon meeting at the Japan Press Club.

"Although U.S. high technology-oriented (engineering and equipment) firms are most interested in participating in the Japanese market, U.S. civil engineering and heavy-construction firms lack such interest," he said.

Ochi made the remarks in reply to a question about how Japan would deal with a possible backlash that could arise if U.S. firms fail to register substantial business records after two years, despite a recent accord on procedures for allowing American builders to bid on construction projects in Japan.

The agreement does not pledge the Japanese Government to guarantee access to the Japanese construction market and leaves it up to U.S. firms to win the contracts in both a selected number of public works projects and government-sponsored private projects.

The accord calls for the formation of an organization to monitor Japan's compliance, as well as for reviewing progress in U.S. participation after a test period of two years.

Japan "will cooperate to promote U.S. participation in its construction market to prevent a new trade dispute from arising again after two years," he said.

Ochi said, "Although U.S. politicians have been very vociferous" in demanding liberalization of the Japanese construction market, "U.S. civil engineering and heavy-construction firms lack such aggressiveness."

"If these very U.S. (heavy-construction) firms do not have the wish to enter the Japanese market, there is no way" of giving business opportunities to them, he added.

Komeito's Yano Meets With Bush, Carlucci
OW160219 Tokyo KYODO in English 0200 GMT
16 Apr 88

[Text] Washington, April 15 KYODO—U.S. Vice President George Bush urged Japan to remove its barriers on trade and defense in his meeting with a Japanese opposition party leader here Friday.

Bush, a Republican candidate in the presidential primary election, made the request when he met Junya Yano, chairman of Japan's second largest opposition Komeito, at the White House.

In the 20-minute meeting, Bush, while noting constraints on the Japanese side, said Japan should remove the barriers to dispel the idea of isolationism in the United States.

Bush made the remarks in response to Yano's statement that his party will review its diplomatic and defense policies on the basis of Japan-U.S. friendship.

Bush did not elaborate on defense obstacles but his remarks were taken to mean that Japan should increase its defense burdens as called for by top U.S. government officials.

Yano also encouraged Bush in the presidential election and Bush in return presented Yano with golf shirts.

Earlier Friday, Yano also met U.S. Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci at the Pentagon for about half an hour.

While expressing understanding of Japan's present level of defense spending, Carlucci called for a drastic increase in Japan's overseas development assistance (ODA) for developing countries.

Carlucci expected Japan to increase its economic assistance to the Philippines and Latin American and African countries.

LDP Council Chairman Leaves for PRC

OW170430 Tokyo KYODO in English 0424 GMT
17 Apr 88

[Text] Tokyo, April 17 KYODO—Liberal Democratic Party Executive Council Chairman Masayoshi Ito flew to Beijing Sunday for a four-day visit to China as a special envoy of Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, LDP officials said.

Ito, head of the ruling party's weekly decision-making, will meet China's new leaders elected at the National People's Congress which closed a two-week session last week.

He is scheduled to meet with Premier Li Peng, chairman of the state and Communist Party Military Commissions Deng Xiaoping and Vice Premier Wu Xueqian during his stay in Beijing.

Ito will return to Tokyo Wednesday.

Ito is also scheduled to visit China April 27-May 1 again to attend a conference of nongovernment leaders from the two countries.

Foreign Minister Views Soviet-Held Islands

OW170843 Tokyo KYODO in English 0708 GMT
17 Apr 88

[Text] Nemuro, Hokkaido, April 17 KYODO—Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno said Sunday he hopes to break the Soviet occupation of Japanese islands just east of Hokkaido.

Uno, viewing the Soviet-held territories from aboard a patrol boat, told reporters he hopes to win the return of the islands as early as possible.

The foreign minister left Nemuro Port on the Maritime Safety Agency's patrol boat Mashu and cruised for two hours around first Kunashiri Island and then the Habomai group islets.

Hokkaido Governor Takahiro Yokomichi and Nemuro Mayor Kaiji Oya accompanied Uno on the cruise.

Uno was the sixth incumbent foreign minister to view the islands, following Kiichi Miyazawa in September 1976, Sunao Sonoda in September 1979, Masayoshi Ito in October of 1980, Yoshio Sakurachi in August 1982, and Shintaro Abe in August 1982.

On March 27, Management and Coordination Agency Director General Osamu Takatori, who has jurisdiction over government campaigns for the return of the islands, saw the islands from Hokkaido's eastern tip at Cape Nossappu.

Uno told reporters aboard the ship that he feels as if he is on an international border but that the islands are Japan's territories.

Attending a press conference at a Nemuro hotel after the cruise, Foreign Minister Uno said he is planning to meet Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in Tokyo this fall for a regular consultation.

Japan has proposed holding a high-level session in Moscow sometime during the first half of this year to prepare for the foreign ministerial meeting, Uno said.

Uno said he hopes to discuss with Shevardnadze in depth the territorial issue and international problems, particularly the decade-long war in Kampuchea.

The foreign minister said he appreciates Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's dynamic policy decisions on the signing of the treaty on the elimination of intermediate-range nuclear force (INF) weapons and on the pullout of an estimated 115,000 Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

Uno said Japan hopes to expand political dialogue with the Soviet Union under Gorbachev who he expects would further develop a new policy line.

As part of Japan-Soviet dialogue, Uno said he expects an exchange of visits by parliamentarians of the two countries.

He also said Japan has asked the Soviet Union to allow Japanese to pay visits to graves on not only the Habomai group and Shikotan Islands but also on Kunashiri and Etorofu Islands.

Uno said he is urging Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita to visit Hokkaido to view the northern territories.

Japan claims sovereignty over Kunashiri, Etorofu, Shikotan Islands and the Habomai group which the Soviet Union seized after the end of World War II.

The foreign minister is scheduled to return to Tokyo Monday after visiting Sapporo.

Soviet Naval Vessels Spotted in East China Sea
*OW181203 Tokyo KYODO in English 1155 GMT
18 Apr 88*

[Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO—Two Soviet naval vessels were spotted moving north in the East China Sea off Amami-Oshima Island, Kagoshima Prefecture, Monday, Maritime Self-Defense Force [MSDF] officials said.

An MSDF patrol plane found a "Foxtrot" class patrol submarine and an "Andizhan" class missile support ship on the sea about 370 kilometers west of the island around 11:30 A.M.

The Defense Agency believes the Soviet vessels were going to the Soviet Pacific fleet base in Vladivostok from Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam.

Indian Prime Minister Gandhi Ends Visit
*OW160531 Tokyo KYODO in English 0257 GMT
16 Apr 88*

[Text] Tokyo, April 16 KYODO—Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi left Japan Saturday after a three-day visit as a guest of the Japanese Government.

Gandhi will return home after stopping in Vietnam.

The Indian prime minister attended the opening ceremony in Tokyo Friday of the six-month-long Festival of India campaign to be held all over Japan to deepen mutual understanding between Japan and India.

While in Japan, Gandhi also met Crown Prince Akihito and Princess Michiko and held bilateral summit talks with Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita.

North Korea

Kim Il-song Receives PLA Friendship Group
*SK160945 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
0800 GMT 16 Apr 88*

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song received today a Chinese People's Liberation Army [PLA] friendship visiting group by Zhang Zhongxian, Political Commissar of the Guangzhou Military Area, which is now visiting our country. Comrade O Chin-u, minister of the People's Armed Forces, was on hand.

Wen Yezhan, PRC ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to our country, and (Wang Dahui), military attache at the embassy, were present.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song made conversation with the guests in a warm and friendly atmosphere. The guests gave a gift to the great leader.

CSSR Sports Official Criticizes Olympic Venue
*SK170824 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0820 GMT 17 Apr 88*

[Text] Pyongyang April 17 (KCNA)—Pavel Klapus, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Union of Physical Culture, said at a meeting of its Central Committee held on April 13 that Czechoslovakia, like other socialist countries, considers the designation of Seoul as the venue of the Olympic games is politically wrong, according to a CTK report. CTK reported that the prospect of the Olympic games is obscure due to the unstable and explosive situation of South Korea.

O Chin-u Greets Iranian Defense Minister
*SK180511 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0506 GMT 18 Apr 88*

[Text] Pyongyang April 18 (KCNA)—Vice marshal of the Korean People's Army O Chin-u, minister of People's Armed Forces, sent a message of greetings to Brigadier General Mohammad Hoseyn Jalali, defence minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on the occasion of the army day of Iran.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the armies of the two countries will further expand and develop through the common struggle against imperialism and for the independent development of the country, the message wished the Iranian defence minister greater success in his responsible work.

WPK Sends Condolences to Cypriot Party
*SK150958 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0907 GMT 15 Apr 88*

[Text] Pyongyang April 15 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea sent a message of condolence to the Central Committee of the Progressive Party of the Cypriot Working People on April 13 on the demise of its general secretary Ezekias Papaioannou.

Upon hearing a sad news that Ezekias Papaioannou passed away, the message says, we express profound condolence to the Central Committee and entire membership of your party.

Stressing that the feats performed by Comrade Ezekias Papaioannou in the struggle against imperialism and colonialism and for the independence of the country and its territorial integrity will remain for ever, the message asks the C.C., the Progressive Party of Cypriot Working People to convey deep condolence to the bereaved family members of the deceased.

Kim Il-song Greet Sihanouk on National Day
SK160920 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0907 GMT 16 Apr 88

[Text] Pyongyang April 16 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song sent a message of greetings on April 16 to his highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea, on the national day of Democratic Kampuchea.

The message says:

Today the patriotic people of Kampuchea continue a staunch fight to defend national dignity and sovereignty and achieve freedom, liberation and territorial integrity, rallied closely around you the Samdech and the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea.

I take this opportunity to express firm solidarity for your efforts for a fair political settlement of the Kampuchean problem and sincerely wish you and the Kampuchean people great success in the just cause of building a unified, independent, peaceful, neutral and non-aligned Kampuchea on an integral territory.

The message expresses the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two peoples will grow stronger and develop with the passage of time.

CHOSON SINBO Interviews JSP's Doi
SK181055 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1048 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] Pyongyang April 18 (KCNA)—Takako Doi, chairwoman of the Central Executive Committee of the Japan Socialist Party, in an interview with a reporter of CHOSON SINBO, said the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is, indeed, a generous and broad-minded person, recalling that she visited Korea last year and was received by him.

Noting that President Kim Il-song pays deep attention to the struggle of the world people demanding chajusong, she said he always gives lucid answers to whatever ambiguous and complicated questions.

Turning to the seething reality of Korea, she said:

Korea is generally full of animation. The most striking change compared with how it looked nine years ago is that huge structures and public buildings have increased greatly.

I could see in them the meticulous care to make each building more functional and available to many more people.

When I went to the construction site of the Nungnado Stadium, I was genuinely startled at the grandeur of its scale.

I told a meeting in Pyongyang that I wished for Olympic cohosting. Still now I hope that such excellent stadium will be an arena of it.

Referring to the reunification question of Korea, she stated:

I was deeply impressed by the words of President Kim Il-song that not a day passed over the last 40 years without his thinking about termination of the distress of national division. I keenly felt how earnestly he was putting his heart and soul into national reunification.

Declaring that the Japan Socialist Party would fight for the withdrawal of the Japanese authorities' "sanctions" against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, she said Japan must not remain hostile toward the DPRK but normalize her relations with it.

Only then can Japan contribute to the creation of a climate for detente on the Korean peninsula and dialogue and, furthermore, the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea, she stressed.

CPRF Criticizes U.S.-Japan 'Tie-Up'
SK170829 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0825 GMT 17 Apr 88

[Text] Pyongyang April 17 (KCNA)—The Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland on April 14 made public its Information No. 460 denouncing the strengthened military tie-up between the U.S. imperialists and the Japanese reactionaries.

The information says:

The U.S. imperialists plan to stage U.S.-Japan "joint naval exercise largest in history" from the end of September to mid-October, blaring that they will "contain" someone during the Olympic games.

What the U.S. imperialists seek is to strengthen the U.S. and Japanese "security system" and, on this basis, round off the triangular military alliance system involving the United States, Japan and South Korea so as to hurl the Japanese "Self-Defence Forces" on to the Korean peninsula in case of "emergency" and, furthermore, make an attack on Asian countries and socialist countries.

The Korean people and the world peace-loving people are sharply watching the dangerous moves of those who are fond of fire. They will never tolerate reckless military provocations of the war maniacs.

Further on Defection of Professor From South
SK160858 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0845 GMT 16 Apr 88

[Text] Pyongyang April 16 (KCNA)—Yi U-kap, 52, associate professor at the Kunsan Business College in South Korea and vice-chairman of the North Cholla Provincial Maritime Children's Federation, came over to the northern half of Korea. He arrived in Pyongyang on April 15.

Born in the North Cholla provincial city of Chonju, he had lived long in Kunsan and taught in high schools and colleges.

He told newsmen at the airport that he was glad and happy very much to have gratified his desire to be embraced by the DPRK on the very significant birthday of respected General Kim Il-song when the entire nation were filled with deep respect and reverence for him.

Yi U-kap added that he, examining with the conscience of a teacher the anti-communist propaganda of the South Korean authorities, regularly listened to radio of the North for ten-odd years, and read many publications of the North including "Kim Il-song Selected Works," which deepened his longing for the North.

When I listened last year to the news that the birthday of the great general was celebrated with splendor as a grand jubilee of the nation, I could hardly repress my eagerness to enjoy the administration of the general, the sun of the nation, he said.

I left South Korea late March with determination to celebrate the birthday of the respected general in the North this year, and I am here now under the embrace of the DPRK, he stressed.

Yi U-kap Friday presented a bunch of flowers to the bronze statue of the great leader President Kim Il-song on Mansu Hill and sincerely wished him good health and long life.

U.S. To Transfer Fighters to South Korea
SK161016 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1006 GMT 16 Apr 88

[Text] Pyongyang April 16 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists scheme to transfer 24 "F-4E" Phantom fighters to the South Korean puppets, according to a report submitted to the U.S. Congress on April 13.

These fighters are belonging to the U.S. Air Force occupying South Korea.

The U.S. imperialists decided to sell their "F-4E" Phantom fighters to the South Korean puppets for 182 million dollars, while replacing them with nuclear capable "F-16" fighter bombers, with an eye to ignite a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula.

They are asserting that this step was taken to meet the need to "give aerial support" to the puppets.

This shows how zealously the U.S. imperialist are working to step up the preparations to invade the North by constantly shipping up-to-date combat planes into South Korea and delivering more fighters to the puppets.

Chemical Warfare Exercise Held in South
SK181046 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1035 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] Pyongyang April 18 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets held a joint chemical warfare exercise of the air force coinciding with the provocative "Team Spirit 88" joint military maneuvers, according to a South Korean radio report April 16. The exercise was reportedly carried out under the circumstances reminiscent of an actual war with aircraft attack and explosion of "live chemical bombs and sound bombs."

This shows what desperate efforts the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are making to prepare themselves for a chemical and biological warfare as part of the "Team Spirit 88" joint military maneuvers, a preliminary and test nuclear war against the northern half of Korea.

Daily Views Abolition
SK170839 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0829 GMT 17 Apr 88

[Text] Pyongyang April 17 (KCNA)—The Korean people are warmly hailing and supporting the peace-loving proposals on the global prohibition and abolition of chemical weapons which were made by the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, the Czechoslovak Communist Party and the Social Democratic Party of Germany in their joint statement, says NODONG SINMUN today.

In a signed commentary the paper notes:

These proposals are positive initiatives to remove the danger of war from central Europe, ease the tensions and ensure a durable peace and stability, which reflect the noble desire to relieve mankind of the holocaust by chemical weapons.

These constructive proposals also accord with the desire of the world's progressive people to live in a peaceful world free from war, nuclear and chemical weapons and other mass destruction weapons.

However, the U.S.-led imperialist aggression forces are clamouring about "detente" and "disarmament" in words, but are, in actuality, continuing to press on with the development, stockpiling and deployment of chemical weapons as well as nuclear weapons.

In particular, the U.S. imperialists are staging exercises with chemical weapons as well as nuclear weapons during the period of the "Team Spirit" joint military manoeuvres. The danger of a chemical war comes from the ever intensified aggression and war manoeuvres of the U.S.-led imperialists.

To preserve a durable and everlasting peace on the globe, it is imperative to check and frustrate the aggression and war manoeuvres of the imperialists, prohibit the production, stockpile and use of nuclear and chemical weapons and other mass destruction weapons and completely abolish them.

The Korean people demand that central Europe and the Korean peninsula be turned into areas free from nuclear and chemical weapons, and furthermore, such nuclear-free, chemical-free zone be extended to all continents, all regions of the world.

Workers in South 'Continue Struggle'

*SK181038 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1032 GMT 18 Apr 88*

[Text] Pyongyang April 18 (KCNA)—The South Korean workers are continuing their struggle for the formation of trade union and increase of wages.

Over 1,500 workers of the Koje Shipyard under the Samsung Heavy Industries Company staged a sit-in on April 16 demanding the formation of a trade union.

When the sit-in strike of the workers showed a sign of serious development, the company side suspended the operation of the company from April 16 to 23 allegedly to "find time for dialogue."

On the same day over 3,000 workers of the Daewoo Shipyard who had been on strike for several days in demand of wage hike held a demonstration and trade union members of 23 coal mines went on strike demanding a 15-30 percent increase of wages.

The workers of the Daewoo Motor Company kept up their strike for five consecutive days as of April 16, and 600 workers of the Chonu Lumber Mill in Kunsan, North Cholla Province, held a sit-in, demanding a wage increase.

Noting that the workers of 84 enterprises across South Korea rose in struggle for better treatment on April 16 alone, the puppet clique said in fear that "the number of the factories caught up in strike might increase sharply.

Strikes Reported

*SK170858 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0846 GMT 17 Apr 88*

[Text] Pyongyang April 17 (KCNA)—South Korean workers are expanding their struggle for the right to existence and democratic freedom as the days go by, according to a report.

More than 1,500 workers of the Koje Shipyard of the Samsung Heavy Industry staged a sit-in struggle, demanding wage hike, while conducting a signature campaign for the formation of independent trade unions on April 16.

Workers of 35 coal mines in Kangwon Province of South Korea rose in labour dispute, demanding wage raise and improvement of labour conditions on April 15.

On the same day over 1,000 workers of the ship building corporation in Pusan urged the management to accept their just demand, saying that they will not get to work as long as the reinstatement of the dismissed workers is not realised.

200 representatives of taxi drivers across South Korea occupied an office room of the building of the government-run "General Union of Labour" hall in Youido, Seoul, and launched a sit-in struggle, asking for immediate permission to establish taxi trade union.

More than 1,000 workers of the Tongyang Precision Industry Company in Songnam, Kyonggi Province, rose in a strike and demonstration on the same day in protest against the No Tae-u fascist clique's brutal atrocities of firing tear gas at the workers in a demonstration for wage hike and heavily wounding them.

Kim Il-song Sees Chongnyon, Trade Delegations

*SK180517 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0508 GMT 18 Apr 88*

[Text] Pyongyang April 18 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song received delegations of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and Korean Traders and Industrialists in Japan on visit to the homeland.

Present there were the members of the congratulatory group of Koreans in Japan headed by Pak Chae-no, vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon, visiting the homeland to celebrate April 15, the delegation of Korean women in Japan headed by Pak Chong-hyon, chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the Democratic Union of Korean Women in Japan, the delegation of company workers of Chongnyon headed by Choe Pyong-cho, director of a department of the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon, the Art Troupe of Koreans in Japan headed by Hong Yong-wol, the delegation of the Society for Aiding the Kumsangsan Opera Troupe of Chongnyon headed by chairman of the

society Pak Chong-kyu, An Sang-taek, director of the Tonghae Trading Company, Ltd. of Chongnyon, and his companion and Kim In-kwon, Chongnyon businessman in Tokyo, and his companion.

Comrade Ho Tam and Kim Song-ae, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Democratic Women's Union, were also present. Vice-Chairman Pak Chae-no warmly congratulated President Kim Il-song on his 76th birthday and wished him good health and long life, representing the loyal hearts of the entire officials of Chongnyon and 700,000 Korean residents in Japan.

President Kim Il-song had a conversation with members of Chongnyon delegations and Korean traders and industrialists in Japan in a cordial atmosphere.

He gave a luncheon for them.

More Celebrations of Kim Il-song's Birthday

Castro Attends Havana Gathering

SK170851 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0840 GMT 17 Apr 88

[Text] Pyongyang April 17 (KCNA)—Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz attended a friendly gathering celebrating the 76th birthday of Comrade Kim Il-song held on April 14 at the DPRK Embassy in Havana.

The participants conversed in a friendly atmosphere.

At the gathering Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz said he was extending warm congratulations to Comrade Kim Il-song, the brother, on his birthday, and proposed a toast to his good health and long life.

He reiterated his full support to the DPRK's Olympic co-hosting proposal.

At the end of the gathering Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz posed for a photograph with officials of the embassy.

Receives Gift From Bulgaria

SK161027 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1017 GMT 16 Apr 88

[Text] Pyongyang April 16 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on his birthday received a gift from Comrade Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and president of the State Council of the Bulgarian People's Republic.

It was conveyed on April 15 to an official concerned by Bulgarian ambassador to Korea Peter Danailov.

Foreign Leaders Send Greetings

SK160844 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0831 GMT 16 Apr 88

[Text] Pyongyang April 16 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received messages of greetings from party and state leaders of different countries on his birthday.

They came from Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party and president of the Romanian Socialist Republic; Bosko Kronic, president of the Presidency of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia; Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea; Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic; Ahmad 'Ali al-Mirgani, president of the Council of the Head of State of the Republic of the Sudan; Jerry John Rawlings, chairman of the Provisional National Defence Council of the Republic of Ghana; Joao Bernardo Vieira, president of the State Council of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau; Ibrahim B. Babangida, president and commander-in-chief of Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; Ali Seibou, president of the Supreme Military Council and head of state of the Republic of Niger; Habyarimana Juvenal, president of the Republic of Rwanda and president-founder of the National Revolutionary Movement for development of Rwanda; Blaise Compaore, chairman of the People's Front, head of state and head of the Government of Burkina Faso; France Albert Rene, president of the Republic of Seychelles; Gnassingbe Eyadema, president-founder of the Togolese People's Rally and president of the Republic of Togo; Daniel Ortega Saavedra, president of the Republic of Nicaragua; Erskine Sandiford, prime minister of Barbados; and Paul Suereb, acting president of the Republic of Malta.

The messages extend warmest congratulations to Comrade Kim Il-song and wholeheartedly wish him good health and long life.

Children's Groups Celebrate

SK160829 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0820 GMT 16 Apr 88

[Text] Pyongyang April 16 (KCNA)—A joint national meeting of the Korean Children's Union [KCU] organizations celebrating the birthday of the great leader Marshal Kim Il-song was held on April 15 at the Mangyongdae Revolutionary School with large attendance.

The meeting was attended by 12,000 school children, their parents and model members of the Korean Children's Union from across the country. The members of the delegations and visiting groups of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) were also present.

Foreign guests staying in our country were invited there.

Present at the meeting were Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president; Kang Hui-won, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, chief secretary of the Pyongyang municipal party committee and chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee; Ho Chong-suk and Choe Tae-pok, secretaries of the WPK Central Committee, and others.

A ceremony of the KCU was followed by the reading of the congratulatory message addressed to Marshal Kim Il-song on his birthday representing the unanimous loyalty of the entire KCU members. Noting that the birth of the father Marshal Kim Il-song was one of *chuche* Korea, a majestic sunrise of a new era illuminating the whole world, the KCU members said that Marshal Kim Il-song is the great sun of mankind without an equal in the world and our era blooming under its rays is a great *chuche* era. They vowed to follow the great leader Marshal Kim Il-song and the dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il, holding them in high esteem, and to remain intensely loyal to them.

A KCU admission ceremony took place at the meeting.

Chongnyon Celebrates

SK170821 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0813 GMT 17 Apr 88

[Text] Tokyo April 14 (KNS-KCNA)—A central meeting of Koreans in Japan was held in Tokyo on April 14 to celebrate the birthday of the great leader Marshal Kim Il-song.

Speaking at the meeting, Han Tok-su, chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), said that the spring holiday of April in which the great leader Marshal Kim Il-song was born is, indeed, a significant jubilee instilling boundless national pride and deep faith in the hearts of the entire functionaries of Chongnyon and Koreans in Japan. He spoke in detail about the fact that the great leader has devoted all his life on the untrodden path of national, class liberation and human liberation and made imperishable feats for the country and nation and for history and mankind. He said the great leader is enjoying undisputed trust and respect from hundreds of millions of people in the world for his undying feats for the times and mankind and his international authority.

He stressed: Constant strengthening and development of the Koreans' movement in Japan and their life and greater future happiness are assured when they advance under the wise leadership of the great leader Marshal Kim Il-song, holding him in high esteem. This is precious truth and rock-firm faith acquired by us through our patriotic activities and experience of life.

A congratulatory message of the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon to Marshal Kim Il-song was read out at the meeting.

The committee hosted a grand reception at the Korean hall in Tokyo on April 14 to celebrate the birthday of Marshal Kim Il-song.

Koreans all over Japan held colorful events on the occasion.

'Endless Stream' of Visitors Crowd Mangyongdae
SK160854 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0839 GMT 16 Apr 88
[*"Sacred Land of Revolution"—KCNA headline*]

[Text] Pyongyang April 16 (KCNA)—Mangyongdae is crowded with an endless stream of home and foreign visitors on the occasion of the significant holiday of April.

Tens of thousands of people are coming to this place on a daily average these days.

Mangyongdae situated about 12 kilometers southwest of the heart of the capital city of Pyongyang is a historic place where the great leader President Kim Il-song was born and spent his childhood.

The native house of President Kim Il-song is preserved there as it was.

There are the Mangyongdae Revolutionary Museum and such valuable mementoes as "Spring Site," "Study Site" and "Warship Rock."

President Kim Il-song spent his childhood in Mangyongdae cultivating his great revolutionary intention to drive out the brigandish Japanese imperialists and liberate the country.

In Mangyongdae, the visitors learn from the glorious revolutionary history and exploits of President Kim Il-song.

They plant fragrant flowers and rare trees in this place and tend them with great care with a loyal heart to hold him in high esteem forever.

Great many foreign friends have so far visited this place.

Over 2,600 delegations from different countries and as many as 25,000 foreign friends including heads of state and prominent personages visited Mangyongdae last year which marked the 75th birthday of President Kim Il-song.

They planted trees and flowers in memory of their visit to Mangyongdae.

In recent years, scores of thousands of foreign friends from over 100 countries have planted a total of 1,000 flowers and trees of scores of kinds.

17 pinenut trees planted by foreign heads of state in memory of their visit grow green in the garden of the native house.

The visitors are very much delighted to see in different parts of Mangyongdae many trees and flowers such as septifoliate pine tree, lilac, cherry, rose and tulip which have been planted or sent by prominent personages, revolutionary people and followers of the *chuche* idea of different countries.

Opening of Greenhouse for Kim Chong-il Flower
SK130530 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
1000 GMT 10 Apr 88

[Excerpts] A gathering to mark the opening of the greenhouse for the flower named after dear Comrade Kim Chong-il was splendidly held at the Central Botanical Garden on the morning of 10 April. [passage omitted]

Comrade Kye Ung-tae, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and secretary of the party Central Committee; Comrade Kang Hui-won, candidate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, responsible secretary of the Pyongyang municipal party committee, and chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee; Comrade Chong Chun-ki, candidate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice premier of the State Administration Council; Chi Chang-ik, member of the WPK Central Committee and senior secretary of the Central People's Committee; members and alternate members of the party Central Committee in Pyongyang; ministers and chairmen of the State Administration Council; responsible functionaries of central organizations and public organizations; functionaries from scientific, educational, cultural, art, public health, publication, and press circles; KPA generals; anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters; workers and youths and students of the city attended the gathering.

At the meeting, Comrade Chong Chun-ki gave a speech.

[Begin Chong recording] [Passage omitted] Through energetic ideological and theoretical activities, the dear comrade leader has further deepened and developed the immortal *chuche* idea, cherishing uncommon wisdom, and has given perfect answers to all theoretical and practical problems that arise in socialist and communist construction.

The encyclopedic ideas and theories put forth by the dear comrade leader in all domains of the revolution and construction, including formulation of the great leader's revolutionary ideas on the monolithic system of the *chuche* ideas, theories, and methods, a unique theory for

party building and a *chuche*-oriented theory for building the state, the economy, and culture, have become a precious asset of the advanced ideas and theories of mankind and an immortal banner that inspires the cause of the revolutionary people of the world for independence. The dear comrade leader perfectly embodies the outstanding leadership art and leadership method, and has made immortal achievements in the history of the nation. [applause] [passage omitted]

Indeed, dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has the lofty dignity and authority of the great achievements made before time and mankind and is a peerless great man who enjoys the boundless respect and trust of our people and the revolutionary people of the world. [applause]

The Kim Chong-il flower, presented to the dear comrade leader from an outstanding Japanese gardener as a gift, is an immortal flower that was brought to bloom by burning loyalty to uphold his name as a lodestar and to endlessly follow him and by spotless and pure sincerity. [applause]

Indeed, the birth of the Kim Chong-il flower, an immortal flower, is a significant historic event that gives greater pride to our people's lives by upholding the dear comrade leader. [applause]

At this significant place to mark the opening of the greenhouse of the immortal Kim Chong-il flower, I extend greatest honor and warmest thanks to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, who is brilliantly inheriting and perfecting the *chuche* revolutionary cause and leading our people and the revolutionary people of the world along the path of victory and glory, together with the boundless admiration and burning loyalty of all the people. [applause] [passage omitted] [end recording]

Kim Chong-il Guidance to Automobile Sector
SK160044 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
2200 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Text] Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and secretary of the party Central Committee, gave guidance to the work of the automotive manufacturing sector.

Comrade O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and minister of the People's Armed Forces; Comrade Chon Pyong-ho, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and secretary of the party Central Committee; Comrade Choe Kwang, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and chief of General Staff of the KPA; and responsible functionaries concerned accompanied him.

Party members and working people of the automotive industrial sector have effected new changes in increasing the production of automobiles and in consolidating its

material and technical foundation by vigorously carrying out the 200-day campaign upholding the letter and slogans of the party Central Committee.

After familiarizing himself with the work of the automotive industrial sector in detail, Comrade Kim Chong-il, while looking around at the pilot products of the newly manufactured high-quality passenger cars, expressed great satisfaction over the fact that the workers and engineers in this sector have manufactured modern high-quality passenger cars by highly displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance.

Saying that we can manufacture modern machine equipment of any kind as we have at our disposal the firm foundation for a powerful national economy of self-reliance and a superior scientific and technical force, Comrade Kim Chong-il stressed the need to further perfect the sectoral structure of the national economy and to further raise the level of making it chucheoriented and modernized by continuously developing science and technology and by pioneering new production fields.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, noting the need to lift the automobile industry to a new height according to the increasing demand for automobiles and to the trend of developing modern science and technology, presented a series of tasks for firmly organizing the production base of high-quality passenger cars further and for developing to an even greater extent the nation's automobile industry during the period of the 200-day campaign.

Exhibition of Inventions Opens in Pyongyang
SK181037 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1030 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] Pyongyang April 18 (KCNA)—An exhibition of inventions is open in Pyongyang.

On display there are over 1,000 kinds of inventions out of the numerous items invented by scientists, technicians, workers and three-revolution team members and youth and students over the last 1-2 years.

Many of them are from the fields of electronic engineering, biology and heat engineering which hold a principal place in the three-year plan for the development of science and technology.

The exhibition shows well that Korea is in a vigorous massive technical innovation drive and is actively developing the newest domains of science and technology.

Provincial Leader Addresses Mass Rally
SK18723 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
1100 GMT 28 Mar 88

[Speech by Kim Ki-son, responsible secretary of the Kaesong city party committee and chairman of the Kaesong City People's Committee, at a Kaesong city mass rally held at the Kaesong City Plaza to support the KPA supreme commander's order; date not given]

[Text] [Begin recording] Under a tense and gloomy situation in which the danger of a new nuclear war is impending because of the adventurous "Team Spirit-88" joint military exercise of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique, today, we are holding a mass rally to support the respected and beloved comrade KPA supreme commander's order to all units of the KPA and all members of the Korean People's Security Forces, the Red Worker-Peasant Militia, and the Red Youth Guards calling upon them to enter a combat mobilization posture. As has already been reported, despite the unanimous protest and condemnation of the Korean people and the peace-loving people of the world, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets have been staging the "Team Spirit-88" joint military exercise in South Korea from early February.

Because of the large-scale war exercise commotion of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets, a very tense situation in which a new war, a nuclear war, may break out at any moment is prevailing in the land of our country.

The respected and beloved comrade supreme commander's order issued to all units of the three services of the KPA and all members of the Korean People's Security Forces, the Red Worker-Peasant Militia, and the Red Youth Guards is not only a just defensive step to defend our socialist fatherland and revolutionary gains by coping with the adventurous new war provocation maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique, but is also a most active revolutionary step to defend peace on the Korean peninsula and security in Asia and the rest of the world. I, in the name of this mass rally, fervently support the respected and beloved comrade supreme commander's order reflecting the firm will and determination of our people and officers and men of the People's Army not to tolerate any aggressive provocations by the U.S. imperialists and their stooges. [shouts of slogans and applause] [end recording]

Referring to the fact that our party and government of the Republic have made all possible sincere efforts to create an atmosphere of reconciliation and unity within the nation and to achieve peace in the country and its peaceful reunification, the reporter noted that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique have answered with the perpetration of confrontation and nuclear war exercise that run counter to such sincere efforts of ours. He then sternly condemned the "Team Spirit-88" joint military exercise, branding it as a calculated act for provocations designed to reject overall North-South dialogue and to light the fuse of new war on the Korean peninsula and as an intolerable criminal act designed to endanger peace in Asia and the rest of the world, and continued:

[Begin recording] It is the consistent stand of the WPK and the government of the Republic to settle the Korean question peacefully through dialogue and negotiations,

not by means of war. We will make all sincere efforts to preserve peace on the Korean peninsula in the future, too. However, should the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean bellicose elements perpetrate a reckless playing with fire, miscalculating our sincere efforts for peace as our weakness, we cannot but deal due blows according to the principle of self-defense. If the U.S. imperialists threaten us by force of arms, clinging to their so-called policy of force, they will gain nothing from it, and will pay dearly for it.

We do not want war. But, we are not afraid of war. We will respond to good faith with good faith and we will counter retaliation with retaliation. [shouts of slogans, applause]

If the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique force a new war upon us, we will answer it with a war of justice to defend our sacred territory, our people's sovereignty, and our socialist system. If the flames of a nuclear war should burn on the Korean peninsula, it will soon expand globally, and the United States also will not be able to escape from this disaster.

If the United States thinks that its past history, in which not even a bomb was dropped on its mainland though it triggered a war on several hundred occasions, will be repeated today, this is definitely an anachronistic delusion.

The U.S. imperialists should look straight at today's reality, should suspend at once the "Team Spirit-88" joint military exercise commotion, and should return to their homes without delay, taking along their aggressive forces and all war equipment, including nuclear weapons, from South Korea.

The South Korean puppet clique should not run wild indiscreetly, following the U.S. imperialists' new war provocation maneuvers to impose nuclear holocaust upon our nation, but should renounce the commotion of anticommunist confrontation against us at once.

Today's tense situation in our country which has been created due to the war provocation maneuvers by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets demands that all of the people in the northern half of the republic further enhance revolutionary vigilance and vigorously accelerate the struggle for the complete victory of socialism, upholding the banner of the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural.

By following the party center's letter and slogans and by vigorously waging the 200-day campaign, holding a hammer and sickle in one hand and a rifle in the other, all of the working people should glorify the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Republic as a great festival of victors and, thus, should further deepen our Republic politically, economically, and militarily. [end recording]

Action for Unity of Democratic Forces 'Urgent'

SK161147 (Clandestine) Voice of National
Salvation in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 31 Mar 88

[Talk from the "Our Assertions" program: "The Unity of the Democratic and Patriotic Forces and Their Joint Action Are Urgent"]

[Text] Our masses' road of struggle for freedom and democracy is too far and too rugged. Because our masses should restore their independence and democracy, which have been lost and trampled underfoot amid the oppressive rule of the colonial and military dictatorship that inflicts pain and hurts fellow countrymen, they have continued to wage an arduous bloody struggle, hewing out the thorny road and weathering the crises of [word indistinct] with death-defying courage and burning single-hearted patriotism.

However, the bloody struggle filled with devotion and sacrifice for democratization has left bitter repentance behind, casting only the dark cloud of disappointment on the ardent expectations of the masses.

The direct presidential election system hard-won through last year's desperate June mass resistance was never brought to full blossom and thus, the long-desired democratization that was so near at hand has been betrayed by the unanticipated result of the extension of the military dictatorship. Also, the hopes of the masses of not again missing an opportunity, with the general election, at hand are not bright.

In this land where the tragedy of the extension of the military dictatorship continues, those who are loyal to the mission they are assigned before national history and who try to extricate themselves from the shackles of fascism cannot look idly at today's situation nor can they merely swallow bitterness and resentment amid nervousness and uneasiness.

What is the root cause that has barred our steady march toward democracy and brought about the extension of the military dictatorship? To not repeat the unfavorable past struggle for democratization, which has gone through expectation and disappointment, we should raise this question and find a proper answer for it.

The dark tentacles of division and alienation of the United States and the military dictators that follow it have always been behind the turns and twists South Korea's struggle for democratization has undergone in the past. This is a fact that the masses have keenly felt, tolerating moments of frustration.

While paying lip service to the democratization of South Korea and the like, the United States has, in fact, prolonged military rule in this land by the stereotyped

method of dividing the opposition forces and causing them to attack each other and, thus, by not conducting offensives against the ruling camp, they maintain their colonial rule.

During the presidential election on 16 December last year, the United States, in an effort to maintain its colonial rule amid crises, mapped out a scenario for No Tae-u's victory through a fraudulent election, caused the minor parties to echo radical assertions and the opposition party to split to divide and crush the off-stage democratic forces, and encouraged opposition candidates with sweet political guarantees that caused them to indulge in a preposterous dream of victory, which brought about the failure to achieve a single candidacy and extended the misfortune of the military rule in this land.

Still, today, with the general election at hand, the United States, to save No Tae-u, who has been in jeopardy in the face of resisting forces since he assumed power, has not only directly driven a wedge in the opposition camp by mobilizing all intelligence conspirators, including U.S. Ambassador in South Korea Lilley, and made the opposition parties quarrel with each other by instigating its agents in opposition parties to make it impossible to achieve unity of the opposition camp, but has also sought to split all opposition forces.

For this reason, the organ of a dissident organization noted that what the United States and the military dictatorship most persistently seek in their tactics toward the opposition forces is a scheme for division. This is, indeed, a correct view.

That the opposition democratic forces have failed to unite as a result of being toyed with in the splittist maneuvers of the United States and the military dictatorship is one of the greatest reasons for defeat in the struggle for democratization.

A weapon that the bare-handed opposition forces should possess to win power against the teeth of splittist maneuvers is nothing but the strategy of unity. Unity is precisely the [word indistinct] to the opposition democratic and patriotic forces.

We cannot but point out that, nevertheless, the opposition forces themselves caused the abandonment of the expectations of the masses for democratization by abandoning this weapon of unity in the past struggle for democratization.

Through the June mass resistance, the people finally opened a breakthrough in carrying the fighting to the bulwark of the dictatorial regime and scaled a peak where victory was visible in the 16 December presidential election. However, the desire of the masses for a democratic regime was miserably frustrated due to the historical blunder of the division of the opposition camp, and the direct presidential election system, which had

been obtained with blood, brought about the preposterous result of granting legitimacy to the extension of the military dictatorship's assumption of power.

Though we have been dispersed and divided, we should erect a joint front to defeat the enemy's attack. This is political common sense accepted in the East and the West, in the past and the present.

However, some high-ranking figures of the opposition parties deserted their promise to field a single candidate before the people and desperately fought each other, forcing the other side to give way as a result of being blinded by personal interests and greed for power.

No one can deny that if a single candidate had been fielded at that time, it would have caused storms of democratization and would have easily reversed today's result, aside from the summation of physical numbers.

Because of their chronic disease of seeking to be president, however, they reduced the ardent aspirations of the people for democratization to merely a power struggle. If they had genuinely talked about patriotism and worried about the future of the country and the nation, they would not have lost the courage to sacrifice themselves.

As a result, the dirty inside strife of those politicians who did not abandon a small cause for the sake of a great cause and only knew what was advantageous to themselves but did not know what was advantageous to the enemy, helped the extension of the military rule and caused the shameful result of giving the bouquet of victory to the enemy.

In retrospect, the opposition democratic and patriotic forces obviously boarded the ship of democracy together, but failed to reach the port of the overthrow of the military rule because they did not pull the oar of unity.

We should display reasoning, [word indistinct], and a sense of responsibility to coolly reflect on past mistakes. If we accept as a vivid lesson in political activities the fact that the cause of defeat in the anti-U.S. and anti-fascist struggle for democratization importantly lied in the division of the opposition democratic forces, we should achieve a grand unity of the opposition camp, including the opposition parties, to win victory in the forthcoming parliamentary election.

Nevertheless, today the opposition camp has failed to achieve unification, although it admits the need and principle for unification. Giving up unifying the opposition camp is synonymous with giving up the victory of democracy.

Failure to make efforts toward the reunification of the opposition camp is attributable to each opposition party's egoism in seeking only its party interests. This is a treacherous act that runs counter to democracy and the people's desire.

Today, as the general election is around the corner, the people urgently want the opposition camp to be reunified while directing the arrow of hatred and disappointment at conservative politicians.

That we can no longer have any expectation of or hope for conservative politicians, including the two Kims, who have ignored the people's urgent desire for democratization [passage indistinct] is the lesson of tomorrow and a common sense of today.

The struggle for [words indistinct] is the aspiration of the people who want democracy and reunification and is a vital requirement for (?development) of the struggle for democracy.

The unity and joint action of the genuine democratic and patriotic forces that seek democracy are the urgent demand of the times and the desire of the people, the supreme order.

The democratic and patriotic forces should resolutely create firm determination and take joint action in the struggle to check and frustrate the inauguration of a DJP-dominated National Assembly and oppose and reject the military regime. At the same time, some conservative politicians should atone for their crimes, though belatedly, before the martyred patriots, including students Pak Chong-chol and Yi Han-yol, who sacrificed themselves for democracy, and should join the new advance of the ranks of democracy to liquidate their past crimes.

[Passage indistinct] when the democratic and patriotic forces are firmly united and advance shoulder to shoulder, the last stronghold of the United States and the military regime will be easily smashed. When the democratic and patriotic forces are firmly united, [passage indistinct] and the day when we can gain the supreme treasure of independence, democracy, and reunification soon.

South Korea

North Defectors Hold Second News Conference
SK180337 Seoul YONHAP in English
0311 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] Seoul, April 18 (YONHAP)—Two men who claimed to be North Korean defectors, an assertion which has been widely questioned here because of their unusually confident attitudes unlike North Koreans, have been confirmed to be defectors by a thorough probe into their defection case.

In a news conference, their second in South Korea, the two men said on Monday that they swam across the Chinese-North Korean border river of Tumen with the help of a Korean-Chinese couple who were smugglers and reached the Chinese border town of Tumen on Oct. 14, six days after they left Pyongyang by train with travel

permits obtained illegally. In the first news conference, they said they fled the North Korean capital of Pyongyang last October to seek asylum in South Korea.

The two, identified as Kim Chang-hwa, 31, in the fifth year at Pyongyang Railroad College, and O Song-il, 31, a Pyongyang livestock farm worker, became acquainted during their military service and said they began planning their defection six months before their actual departure.

They decided to defect after hearing about South Korea's development and the life of North Korean defectors in the South from their relatives living in China and from overseas radio broadcasts by the Korean Broadcasting System (KBS).

The two said they bought the travel permits with a bottle of ginseng wine from a security officer who was a friend of Kim's elder brother. They carried 30 grams of gold dust and two plastic bags which they used as buoys to help them swim across the river.

The two traveled through China either separately or together for 152 days using false travel permits and identification cards which Kim's relatives living in Yanji, Jilin Province, bought for them with a bribe.

They sold the gold dust and received money from Kim's relatives to finance their journey across China.

They had 1,100 U.S. dollars, 8,500 Hong Kong dollars, and 682 Chinese yuan (RMB) when they reached Manila as stowaways on board a Panamanian-registered freighter. They boarded the freighter in a southern Chinese port.

Kim said he became sick of the life in North Korea when he was sentenced in 1986 to a year of forced labor for playing cards, adding that he feared his family would be moved to a special area and face stricter controls because his elder brother did not return from a secret visit to Manchuria.

Kim, who was born in the Chinese border province of Kirin, has relatives living there.

Kim said he had to marry a 26-year-old woman, who lived in the east coast port city of Wonsan, because her pregnancy reached the six-month stage. He met the woman in 1981 shortly after his discharge from the Army.

O, who is single, said he had been under continuous surveillance during his military service because his parents were from South Korea and that they faced discriminatory treatment.

O said that the surveillance was heightened after he was found to have swindled money by disguising himself as a security officer.

O's father, who worked at a provincial wireless communications bureau in South Korea until the 1950-53 Korean war, defected to the North during the war and married another South Korean defector.

Beef Imports To Begin Due to U.S. 'Pressure'

SK170328 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
17 Apr 88 p 4

[By staff reporter By Kim Chae-il]

[Text] Pressured especially by the United States, the government is on the move to reopen the beef market after nearly three years of beef import bans.

Pointing to the inevitability of beef imports, the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry emphasizes nowadays beef cattle price hikes and sharp reduction in the number of cattle.

The ministry's move is regarded as ground leveling work for the beef importation.

As advocate of the interests of farmers, standing up against the Economic Planning Board's initiative to reopen the beef market, the ministry has thus far maintained that beef importation is "untimely" because beef cattle prices are yet to be stabilized.

Even at the beginning of this year, the ministry argued that beef market reopening can be considered only after the price reaches the 1.2 million won level for one 400-kg head. At last year's end, the price was 1.01 million won a head.

In an unofficial meeting with reporters recently, Agriculture-Forestry-Fisheries Minister Yun Kin-hwan stressed that the beef cattle is now priced at about 1.37 million won a head on average.

He also said that the number of the beef cattle sharply dropped to 2,227,000 as of the end of March, compared with 2,943,000 at the end of 1985.

"If beef cattle are priced at 1.29 million won a head," Yun said, "the nation will need about 14,500 tons more to meet total demand amounting to 154,000 tons."

What's the real intention behind the minister's remarks? And can beef market opening be decided according to the domestic price of the beef cattle as he argues?

His remarks on the beef supply shortage represent the first indication the ministry supports the necessity of beef imports, even though he declined to mention the word "importation."

Needless to say, agriculture watchers said, the most important factor in Korean beef imports is the U.S. pressures, not the domestic beef cattle price nor demand-supply concerns.

With the beef market-opening issue, the ministry has been caught in a dilemma, sandwiched between U.S. pressure and farmers at home.

The United States has taken the offensive against Korea, resorting to GATT regulation and U.S. Trade Act Section 301 invocation threats.

On request of the American Meat Institute, the U.S. Trade Representative has decided to investigate the Korean ban on beef imports. After the second round of bilateral talks between two countries broke off, the U.S. requested GATT to organize a panel to investigate the beef issue. The panel organization will be decided in a GATT directors' meeting slated for May 4.

In the bilateral talks, Korean delegation proposed that the government will consider the beef importation on a "quota" basis, but the suggestion was flatly rejected by the U.S. side.

Minister Yun said that the beef cattle price is expected to rise further, leading to the reduction of domestic beef consumption.

Asked about the appropriate price of beef cattle, he said, "It is yet to be decided."

The minister went on to say that the beef importation is not consistent with the interests of farmers. "But I am sceptical whether total self-sufficiency is always right," he said.

Minister Yun said that his ministry will come out with comprehensive measures concerning the beef issue, including the timing of the beef imports.

The nation's general elections, scheduled April 26, have been regarded as the biggest obstacle to the government decision on beef imports.

Ministry officials said that the package deal will include tariff cuts for feed imports and financial support for livestock farmers.

If Korea does import 14,500 tons of beef (102,500 head) this year, the figure represents five times the 3,000 tons of the originally-studied beef imports for tourist hotel use.

Ties With Nonaligned African Countries Sought

SK130533 Seoul YONHAP in English
0510 GMT 13 Apr 88

[Text] Seoul, April 13 (YONHAP)—South Korea will actively seek to establish diplomatic ties this year with nonaligned African countries, including Sao Tome and Principe, and Cape Verde, Foreign Ministry officials said Wednesday.

South Korea last year set up diplomatic relations with three nonaligned nations—Belize, Bhutan, and Somalia.

The government has sent special diplomatic envoys three times to Sao Tome and Principe, an island country located off the west coast of Africa, and recently delivered its basic stance on bilateral diplomatic relations to the African nation through diplomatic channels.

The government is also tapping Cape Verde's intention to discuss the establishment of diplomatic ties with Seoul through expanded mutual economic cooperation.

Cape Verde, an island nation located off the northwestern coast of Africa, had shown a lukewarm attitude toward improving diplomatic relations with Seoul but last year changed its stance, allowing South Korean ships to work along its coast.

The two African nations, both of which currently have diplomatic relations only with North Korea, gained their independence from Portugal in 1975.

Chon Kyong-hwan, 11 Others To Be Indicted
SK160243 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
16 Apr 88 p 3

[Text] The prosecution will today indict Chon Kyong-hwan, ex-chancellor of the Saemaul Headquarters, on numerous charges, including the embezzlement of public funds and illegally sending capital overseas, prosecution sources said yesterday.

Eleven others, including his key aides, will be also indicted, said sources at the Central Investigation Department of the Prosecutor's General Office.

Among them are Chon's two brothers-in-law, Hwang Hung-sik and Kim Song-ung; Mun Chong, ex-public relations official of the Saemaul Headquarters; Chong Chang-hi, ex-senior accounting official of the headquarters; and So Chu-yun, former chief of the accounting section of the Korean Association of Sport for All.

Chon was arrested on March 31 on six charges including influence-peddling.

Specifically, he misappropriated 6,540 million won, evaded taxes totaling 1 billion won and took 247 million won from businessmen in return for favors, prosecutors alleged.

They also suspect that he took at least \$200,000 out of the country to buy a house for his son in New Jersey.

There have been allegations that the ex-Saemaul leader made illegal investments in a gold mine in Argentina and real estate in Australia.

Prosecution investigators have tracked down the source of the 2.2 billion won in secret funds Chon allegedly raised.

The prosecution has also found the sources of the 3.4 billion won Chon used to purchase the Inchang Shopping Center in March last year.

The total includes 2 billion won Chon withdrew from his Saemaul secret funds and 1 billion won he illegally diverted from the Saemaul Sinmun, which he also owned.

Also included are \$600,000 and \$500,000 current account checks Chon allegedly received from Kim Huchin, a Korean resident in the United States. But the \$500,000 check turned out to be bad, investigators said.

Accordingly, the prosecution has decided to additionally charge Chon with violating the Foreign Exchange Control Law.

Opposition Starts Petition for Chon Probe
SK160940 Seoul YONHAP in English
0821 GMT 16 Apr 88

[Text] Seoul, April 16 (YONHAP)—South Korea's four opposition parties Saturday declared that they will start a nationwide petition drive demanding an official probe into the suspected involvement of former President Chon Tu-hwan and his wife Yi Sun-cha in corruption.

In a rare show of unity, the four parties announced in a joint press conference that they will collect one million signatures at campaign rally sites and on streets across the country.

We cannot remove our doubts that the former president and his wife might have been involved in numerous corruption cases while he was in office (as president), representatives of the four parties said.

The four parties, comprising two main opposition groups—the Reunification Democratic Party and the Party for Peace and Democracy—and two splinter opposition groups, will form a special committee to watch for possible fraud in the parliamentary elections on April 26.

The representatives of the four opposition parties demanded in the press conference that the former president and his wife be prevented from leaving the country during the petition drive and called for a special investigative body to conduct the probe into the Chon family's alleged corruption.

The statement, announced on the same day as the formal indictment of the former president's younger brother on corruption charges, also demanded that the Ruling Democratic Justice party cancel its nominations of National Assembly candidates allegedly involved in the younger Chon's corruption scandals.

The 46-year-old younger Chon, Kyong-hwan, was formally indicted by the prosecution Saturday on nine counts of corruption charges involving millions of dollars.

The younger Chon, who was installed in 1981 as the leader of the semi-official Seamaul Undong (New Community Movement) Headquarters, headed the movement over the past seven years while his brother was president.

Opposition party leaders have demanded that official probes be conducted, alleging that not only the younger Chon, but the former president, his wife, and relatives were also involved in many other corruption scandals.

The former president, who announced his resignation from all public posts on Wednesday assuming responsibility for his younger brother's wrongdoing, has come under fire since a former chairman of a now-defunct business group filed a lawsuit demanding the return of the ownership of some business firms which he said were turned over to others as a result of meddling by the people in power during Chon's presidency.

Yang Chong-mo, former chairman of the Kukje-ICC group, insisted that he was forced to sell his stocks for almost no profit because he refused to donate funds to the Ilhae Foundation, a think tank founded by the former president in 1983.

Opposition leaders have charged that the Ilhae Foundation enabled the former president and his family to amass wealth.

The former president has denied the charges and said he asked the foundation to change its name and operating structure. Chon named the foundation after his pen name.

Chon, who stepped down from the presidency on Feb. 25, returned home last Sunday after a three-week visit to the United States.

Demands Chon Travel Ban

SK160346 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean
0300 GMT 16 Apr 88

[Text] In a joint news conference held this morning at the Diplomatic Club in Seoul, four opposition parties—the RDP, PPD, the Hangyore Party, and the Party of the Masses—and the Democratic Federation Struggling for the General Election declared the launching of a campaign to collect 1 million signatures to demand the issuing of a subpoena to former President Chon Tu-hwan and his wife for their appearance in court for an investigation in connection with the wrongdoings committed under the influence of power that have been laid bare as a result of an investigation to the Saemaul misdeeds.

They also demanded that the former president and his wife be banned from traveling abroad and that a special investigation office consisting of representatives of political parties, the Korean Bar Association, and off-stage representatives be formed without delay to investigate the couple.

They also called on the DJP to cancel the nomination of 10 DJP candidates who are believed to have been involved in the Saemaul incident and arrange for those who took part in the wrongdoings to be taken into custody without delay.

In today's news conference, these groups insisted that since there is sufficient possibility that the Saemaul misdeeds could have been undertaken under former president Chon Tu-hwan's active protection, there must be de facto investigation into these suspicions and punishment should be meted out in the event these charges turn out to be accurate.

Ilhae Institute To Change Name, Functions

SK160321 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
16 Apr 88 p 6

[Text] The Ilhae Institute, named after the pen name of former President Chon Tu-hwan, will soon receive a new name and readjusted functions, most likely next week. Moves in that direction came after Chon asked the institute to be renamed, following persistent rumors on the ownership of the institute.

The institute, located in Songnam City immediately south of Seoul, was peculiar at the start of its operation, in terms of operation formula and mood in its compound, let alone the course of its inauguration and the formation of its fund. The peculiarity is among the factors responsible for vicious rumors on the institute, with the truth or falsehood of the rumors still to be verified.

It was in January 1986 that the institute affiliated with the Ilhae Foundation opened. The institute, housed in two buildings whose combined floor space totals nearly 99,000 pyong (about 30,000 sq. meters), is staffed with slightly more than 30 research fellows. Its president is U.S.-educated Kim Ki-hwan, who has served as secretary general of the dysfunctional International Economic Policy Council, a Korean version of the U.S. Trade Representative, and vice minister of trade and industry.

Strict security checks at its entrance touched off curiosity among scholars and journalists visiting the institute to attend a variety of forums organized by it.

A factor giving birth to their curiosity was a single-story residence built on a hill there, whose floor space is 203 pyong (670 sq. meters). Visitors to the institute are not allowed access the structure. Rumors had it that the

residential unit, called the Guest House, is exclusively for Chon and his family members and that the "royal family" had occasionally dropped in at the guest house.

Bad rumors were also rampant in the course of the formation of its fund and the construction of its buildings.

The site housing the Ilhae structures, covering an area of 206,616 pyong (681,833 sq. meters), had been owned by Chong Chu-yong, now honorary chairman of tgt Hyundai Business Group; Yi Myong-pak, chairman of Hyundai Engineering and Construction Co.; and Yi Hak-su, former president of Korea Wonyang Co. Ilhae said Chong and Yi at Hyundai donated their land to the institute, while it purchased 7,000 pyong of land from another Yi.

A total of 59.5 billion won in funds for the institute was raised up to last August and its total assets were scaled at 55,842 million won. It was a major concern of the public whether the fund was donated voluntarily by businesses or collected from them. The institute is still reluctant to make public the list of donors and the scale of their donation. The donated money, however, reportedly stands at 4-5 billion won each for four top business groups—Hyundai, Samsung, Daewoo and Lucky-Goldstar. The comparable figure is estimated at 500 million won to 1 billion won for other business conglomerates.

It was not until October 1983 that the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) formed a fund for the Ilhae Foundation designed to finance education for the bereaved children of the 17 victims of a north Korea bombing in Rangoon during Chon's state visit there. The fund raised then totaled 2,252 million won plus \$600 from foreigners. The money, however, was given out to the bereaved families at their request, leaving the foundation as a nominal one.

Five or six months later, rumors sweeping over Seoul had it that giant local businesses were urged to donate money for the reshuffled Ilhae Foundation reportedly led by former Minister of Communications Choe sun-tal.

At the start, both the Ilhae Foundation and the Ilhae Institute were headed by Kim Ki-hwan. But the leader of the foundation was replaced with Hyundai's Chong Chu-yong abruptly last year, while Kim remained as the head of the institute. Later the two functions merged into the Ilhae Institute, whose board of directors is chaired by Chong.

Ilhae, however, has played an important role in promoting research in a variety of sociopolitical and economic areas since its establishment, while helping needy students who are excellent in their study.

The institute will continue to carry out its mission in academic forums and research projects planned for this year, an Ilhae spokesman said.

Joint Stumping Rallies Begin 16 April

SK160127 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
16 Apr 88 p 2

[Text] Joint stumping rallies for the April 26 parliamentary elections begin today in most of the 224 electoral districts.

Each parliamentary candidate is allowed to make a speech for up to 30 minutes in the joint campaign rallies.

The Central Election Management Committee, the governmental election watchdog body, set the dates for the joint rallies for today, tomorrow and April 23.

The Parliamentary Election Law provides that joint campaign rallies are held three times in each district, banning individual rallies.

In an electoral district comprising two or more cities and counties, the joint rallies are to be held three times in each city and county, according to the Parliamentary Election Law.

Candidates choose their turns for speech by lottery at the rally sites.

There are three electoral districts each comprising three counties. They are Muju-Chinan-Changsu, Chungmu-Kosong-Tongyong, Chunsong-Yanggu-Inje and Poun-Okchon-Yongdong.

RDP Discloses Election Campaign Pledges

SK130555 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
13 Apr 88 p 2

[Text] The Reunification Democratic Party yesterday disclosed a set of campaign pledges highlighted by a reform of the homeland reserve forces system and establishment of a public security commission.

RDP chief policy-maker Cho Hong-nae said his party is the first to make public policy promises geared to the coming parliamentary elections.

The party's reform package comprises 59 items in political, economic, social and cultural fields.

Included is a plan to shorten the service term in the homeland reserve forces from the current eight years to five years.

To guarantee neutrality of the police, the party envisions the establishment of a public security commission which will oversee police administration.

In the political sector, the party promised an Assembly probe into corruption and irregularities involving the Fifth Republic leadership.

It also pledged to make efforts to abolish and revise undemocratic laws enacted by the previous government that encroach on human rights.

DJP Official Causes Controversy by Remarks
SK160125 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
16 Apr 88 p 2

[Press Pocket column: "Official Support"]

[Text] DJP chairman Chae Mun-sik, who has harped on "historic fair campaigning," aroused controversy yesterday when he publicly demanded positive cooperation of top local administration officials for ruling party candidates.

In a breakfast meeting he organized at a hotel in Changwon, Kyongsangnam-do, he told about 50 participants, "Your slightest assistance will bring about victory for DJP runners."

"You hopefully will be concerned about the elections for the coming 10 days," he went on.

The participants included Kyongsangnam-do governor Cho Ik-nae, Changwon mayor Kwak Man-sok, superintendent Kim Pyong-yong of the provincial board of education.

Also on hand were DJP nominees Yi Kyu-hyo, U Pyong-kyu, Pae Myong-guk, Chong Tong-ho and Sin Chae-ki.

In an ensuing press conference, he explained that he did not asked for involvement by the government officials, but "just for help as individuals."

When reporters claimed that the breakfast meeting was campaigning for the ruling party nominees, he maintained, "It is traditional and desirable form of courtesy to give meals to friends." The offering of meals is banned by law.

Old, New DJP 'Power Struggle' Analyzed
SK131006 Seoul YONHAP in English
0937 GMT 13 Apr 88

["News analysis" by Kim Chang-hoe]

[Text] Seoul, April 13 (YONHAP)—In what seems to signal an end to the much talked about power struggle between the old guard and new leaders of the ruling party, former President Chon Tu-hwan bowed to mounting public pressure for a decision on the situation by announcing his resignation Wednesday as chairman of the controversial Advisory Council of Elder Statesmen and from all other public offices.

The decision by the former president, who has been cornered by the multimillion dollar corruption scandals involving his younger brother, also seems to squelch the growing criticism directed toward him and his family which have been the prime targets of the opposition attacks in the campaigning for the upcoming parliamentary elections.

The decision also removed the basis for widespread speculation on his efforts to prolong his influence over the government of President No Tae-u through the council, which was strengthened to an unusual degree for Chon's benefit.

Suspensions grew that Chon was trying to retain his political influence despite his retirement when a law was passed in the National Assembly a couple of weeks before he stepped down in February which called for an expansion of the council, formerly a nominal body, both in organization and functions.

The suspicions, touched off by Chon's reshuffle of the top military leadership last December, turned into speculation of a power struggle in the inner circle when President No and the ruling party dropped senior party members loyal to Chon from the list of nominees to run in the upcoming parliamentary elections.

Foreign news reports on a series of exposes by local news media concerning the younger Chon's corruption scandals, which were based on information leaked by the government board of audit and inspection, have heightened the speculation of a power struggle.

Political analysts said the former president's decision could be a result of the earlier-than-expected efforts by President No's government to distance itself from the previous government headed by Chon coupled with public opinion that favored an end to the relationship between members of the two governments.

In addition, the growing criticism of Chon and his relatives in connection with the massive corruption scandals has forced Chon to recognize that his efforts to remain on the fringes of power are losing ground and that it would be more practical to remove the seeds of conflicts between himself and the new government, the analysts said.

They added that Chon's announcement of his departure from all public roles will provide the momentum for modifying the relationship between the old and new elites of the ruling party clearing the way for the new guard to gain the upper hand.

DJP Sees Gains in Opposition Strongholds
SK170249 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
17 Apr 88 p 2

[From the "Out and About" column: "Show of Confidence"]

[Text] In a rare show of confidence, DJP secretary-general Sim Myong-po yesterday said that his party candidates were doing unexpectedly well in the "Honam

and Chungchong" areas, the strongholds of Kim Tae-chung and Kim Chong-pil, respectively.

The ruling party's No. 3 man, however, said that he was sure of only victories for the party in no more than a fourth of the nation's 224 electoral districts at the moment.

"In the rest of the areas, we are neck and neck with opposition parties," Sim said in a remark intended to neutralize the opposition charge that the "DJP is attempting a sweep of parliamentary seats."

"I hope that within a couple of days, a clearer picture of the race will emerge and in favor of us," Sim told reporters at the party office yesterday morning.

Expecting that the opposition will dig into the alleged irregularities of the Fifth Republic, he wistfully quipped, "Our politics should have advanced at least to the level of home-made automobiles."

Trying To Stop Opposition Boom

SK130511 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES
in English 13 Apr 88 p 2

["Stumping News" column by staff reporter Sin Nak-nim: "DJP Tries To Prevent Pusan Opposition Boom; Election Pledges Mass-Produced"]

[Text] Pusan—The government party's parliamentary candidates in Pusan are making desperate efforts to deny the nation's second largest city a possible opposition boom.

Oppositionists complain that ruling Democratic Justice Party candidates are getting the help of local administration machinery and using an exorbitant amount of money for election purposes.

Despite the denial of the ruling party nominees, the RDP members assert that DJP candidates are spending several billions of won in each district.

According to an opposition campaigner, Ho Sam-su, the ruling party candidate in the Tong (east) district, was running a restaurant to provide food to the residents of his area. He moved it to another place as it was widely known to the opposition candidates, he said.

"Opposition winds" began to be felt, though faintly, in Pusan following a two-day pre-election campaign by former RDP president Kim Yong-sam last week.

Kim Yong-sam Power Base [subhead]

The de facto leader of the RDP will visit Pusan again today to begin a full-fledged campaign in his power base and nearby Kyongsangnam-do province for four days.

DJP candidates, for their part, are issuing a lot of election pledges for regional development of the Pusan area.

The DJP candidates are mostly former ranking government officials and businessmen while their RDP counterparts are career politicians and close followers of Kim Yong-sam.

In the Tongnae-A district, Rep. Kang Kyong-sik of the DJP, former finance minister, is waging an uphill battle against Rep. Pak Kwan-yong, a key strategist in the main opposition RDP.

Rep. Pak is posing himself as a "new leader" who will lead a policy-oriented opposition party in the 1990's.

The RDP lawmaker has firm roots in the region as he graduated from Tongnae High School and Tong-A University here.

The ex-student activist who joined the April 19 Student Revolution which toppled the government of president Syngman Rhee in 1960 started his political life as editor of the party organ of the New Democratic Party, predecessor of the RDP.

Pak was elected to the National Assembly in the Tongnae district in 1981 and again in 1985.

Rep. Kang Kyong-sik was elected to the Assembly from the national constituency under the proportional representation system in the 1985 general elections. Before that, he served as finance minister and a senior secretary general to president Chon Tu-hwan.

Rep. Kang is busy publicizing himself as a politician suitable for regional development of the underdeveloped areas.

However, he has no firm regional background in the port city except the fact that he graduated from the Pusan High School.

Rep. Pak Kwan-yong described the contest between himself and Rep. Kang as a confrontation between husbands and their wives.

According to the RDP candidate, most men in their 40s and 50s favor him while housewives generally show their support for the DJP candidate, being affected by his election pledges for the pavement of roads in their villages and other commitments.

Vice House Speaker [subhead]

The electorate in Pusan see another hot battle in the Puk (north)-A district where vice House speaker Chang Song-man from the DJP is struggling to defend himself against Rep. Mun Chong-su.

Their contest is attracting particular political attention as it is their second encounter following the 1985 general elections in which Chang beat his rival Mun but both were elected to the Assembly under the medium-term constituency system each electing two lawmakers.

Armed with money and organization by the vice House speaker who runs his own school foundation, Rep. Chang is distributing pamphlets titled "Democracy from Pusan," in which he claims the nation's politics are at a crossroads between "arbitrary rule and check by the opposition."

He rose to fame when he drove the ruling camp and government officials into a corner in a House session in 1985 in which he pointed out a big gap in the 1980 population statistics in Kwangju city compiled by the city authorities and the provincial office of Chollanam-do to which Kwangju once belonged.

It was later explained that the Kwangju City figures were incorrect.

Ex-Dissident Figure [subhead]

Observers here said that Rep. Mun will be able to turn the tide against Rep. Chang, former DJP chief policy-maker, in the long run thanks to the revival of an opposition boom.

In the Yongdo district, Ye Chun-ho, leader of the "Hangyore" Democratic Party composed mainly of ex-dissident figures, has appeared as a threat to Rep. Kim Chong-kil of the RDP.

Ye, a former chief secretary to Kim Tae-chung, founded the Hangyore party in protest against the opposition leadership by the two "Kims."

After the failure of efforts for three-way integration between Kim Tae-chung's Party for Peace and Democracy, the RDP and the Hangyore party, Ye started his preparations for election later than his rivals.

Ye, a career politician, however, has a broad base of supporters in his home district.

Daily Interviews PPD Election Chairman SK130449 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 5 Apr 88 p 3

[Interview with Pak Yong-suk, chairman of the PPD Election Campaign Headquarters, by reporter Kim Hyo-sun; date and place not given]

[Text] As a female politician who joined the PPD only 4 months ago, Pak Yong-suk, acting PPD president, has come to take charge of the general election campaign command post of a political party. She is now cautiously

undergoing the orientation course for the party presidency, while overcoming the aftermath of the nomination of PPD candidates and making preparations for the forthcoming general elections.

Acting President Pak, who made her debut on the political arena by becoming PPD vice president under the pressure of woman opposition groups last November, has helped smooth the rigid atmosphere in the party with her tenderness. But she has also displayed her toughness by saying that she would not tolerate any violence in the party over the issue of integrating opposition groups.

Acting President Pak, who long served in woman organizations such as the YWCA, said that she feels "indescribable agony and guilt" over the fact that the people were disappointed by the failure in putting forth a single opposition candidate and by the defeat in the presidential election, and many opposition parties are now going to scramble against each other in the forthcoming general elections. However, she appealed for "support for the PPD, a pure opposition party, which suffered many sacrifices in the course of democratization struggle and which speaks for the interest of isolated circles."

Acting President Pak, born in Pyongyang, and known for her steady interest in promoting women's rights, said that "the significance of the forthcoming general elections is to realize the people's desire to end military rule, which was frustrated in the presidential election." She stressed that the "DJP monopoly in the National Assembly must be prevented even if it means giving votes to other opposition parties, if the PPD is not favored."

By putting forth the party's election catchphrase even as "A Credible Opposition Party," Acting President Pak said that she would put forth a 15-point general election pledge, including a probe into the wealth of former president Chon Tu-hwan, in order to differentiate her party from other opposition groups in the general elections. She displayed her positivity by saying that she would play "a leading role in uniting opposition groups, if opposition restructuring is indispensable following the general elections."

[Kim] What do you think is the significance of the general elections this time?

[Pak] Above all, the frauds committed in the presidential election must be brought to light. Because of debates on who is to blame for the failure in putting forth a single opposition candidate, a thorough probe has not been conducted into the mobilization of money and public power and into the concoctions in ballot casting and counting. In addition, to weaken the existing circles of society, new faces must be sent to the National Assembly to change generations and to restructure the political arena.

By the new constitution, the National Assembly function has been enhanced to check the administrative branch. Accordingly, a pure opposition party should be supported and the DJP-oriented trend of conservatism in society must be blocked.

[Kim] How many National Assembly seats do you seek?

[Pak] Our goal is to secure an adequate number of seats to check the formidable ruling force. By open-mindedly showing our goal to the people, we will only wait for a fair judgment. We have no desire to put forth a number.

[Kim] What will be the point of your debates in the general elections this time?

[Pak] By thoroughly bringing to light the irregularities committed over the past 7 years by the Fifth Republic, we will stress the need to establish a mechanism to prevent such irregularities from being committed again. Specifically, to strengthen the anti-No united front, we will put forth a 15-point pledge such as settling the case of Kwangju uprising in a democratic way, making all citizens become middle class, seeking measures for poverty-stricken urban residents, democratizing the military, seeking measures for elderly and handicapped citizens, seeking antipollution measures, and revising the family law.

[Kim] How do you assess the current regime's will of democratization?

[Pak] President No Tae-u is employing a much more subtle trick of disguise than his predecessor. Considering the pledges made through the 29 June declaration and his presidential election campaign and considering what has been done, only superficial embellishment has been done to change outward appearance but nothing has changed in content. As for DJP nominees, many of them are those who were deeply involved in the irregularities committed over the past one year [as published] and as many as 40 of those who represent business conglomerates have been included. We can hardly dispel the impression of collusion between politicians and businessmen. Moreover, many democratic personages have not been released yet, and their rights have not been reinstated. At the same time, as seen in the incident of the Kuro District Office, those who have devoted themselves to the movement of democracy and justice were sent to prison again. In probing into the Saemaul irregularities and the sexual torture which occurred at the Puchon police station, the essence of the incidents are not probed but they are only putting on a varnish.

[Kim] How will you emphasize the point that your party is different from other opposition parties?

[Pak] For the past 5 months since our party was founded, we have made all efforts to make our party a clean opposition party, an opposition party with alternative policies, and a political party that struggles for the

people's rights to existence in defiance of all sorts of difficulties. Our party has been regarded as the third political party simply because of its size. However, what is important is quality, not quantity. Our party has been organized with those figures who have invariably adhered to a clear-cut opposition line for the 20 long years and with those figures who have led the off-stage opposition forces' struggle against the military dictatorship. Our party has struggled for the interests of alienated segments of people, not for the interests of the privileged classes. These are precisely our party's differences from other political parties. I admit that our party has failed to completely prepare itself to become a perfect political party with alternative policies due to a series of whirlpools following its founding, namely, the presidential election and the negotiations with the RDP for unifying the opposition camp. However, our party's will is firm, and I firmly believe that our party will soon bear good fruition amid the people's support.

[Kim] Commenting on the outcome of your party's nomination of candidates for the general elections, many people say that your party has been dominated by those figures from the off-stage opposition forces and that consequently your party's constitution has basically changed. What do you think of this?

[Pak] Figures from the off-stage opposition forces joined our party in order to instill their freshness and clean political ideal onto practical politics with the guarantee of a 50-50 share in party leadership. Of the total number of party candidates who have been nominated for the general elections, some 20 persons are from the off-stage opposition forces. Therefore, it is not right to say that the party is dominated by those from the off-stage opposition forces.

[Kim] There has been an allegation that most of the figures who were from the off-stage opposition forces were the members of an off-stage opposition organization which recommended Kim Tae-chung as the presidential candidate during the presidential election. In this connection, many people say that your party's assertion that the recruits from the off-stage opposition forces are new faces is false. What do you think of this?

[Pak] During the past presidential election, all figures, whether they were from the off-stage opposition forces or not, had to support one specific person. In light of the off-stage opposition forces' general tendency of avoiding to join practical politics themselves, the fact that many people from the off-stage opposition forces have joined our party while liquidating their past lives is definitely a brave and gallant act. In the course of the struggle for democratization in the future, a joint struggle among parliamentarians, nonparliamentarians and off-stage dissidents is important. Therefore, we should not distort or reduce the significance of these figures from the off-stage opposition forces joining in practical politics.

[Kim] The theory on who should assume primary responsibility and who should assume secondary responsibility for the split of the opposition camp will surely become an issue in the upcoming general election campaign.

[Pak] If I, as acting president of a political party, refer to this problem, many people would say that I lack objectivity. However, I can flatter myself that there is no change in the state of my mind that I had when I struggled as a member of the off-stage opposition forces in the past. We should take the defeat in the presidential election as a lesson. I think that we should unify the opposition camp at any cost. Proceeding from this, our party made efforts not only to achieve the minor electorate system, but also to unify the opposition camp. We showed our sincerity in the efforts to unify the opposition camp even by having Kim Tae-chung withdraw from the post of party president. However, we have failed to achieve unification of the opposition camp because of intelligence politics.

[Kim] In connection with your party's nomination of candidates for the general elections, chiefs of many departments of your party have shown dissatisfaction with the nomination outcome. What do you think of this?

[Pak] It is not right for them to show dissatisfaction outside the party. However, I think that expressing their dissatisfaction can become a sound and constructive indication of a democratic political party. Anyway, all problems have been settled smoothly thanks to their spirit of loving the party.

[Kim] Rumors say that money has been involved in the nomination of your party candidates of the proportional representation system. What do you think of this?

[Pak] Today we have no firm system under which an opposition political party can be autonomically sustained. Under such a situation, I do not deny that the financial ability of applicants is one of the criteria in the nomination of candidates. However, we will also take into consideration the degree of applicants' devotion to the struggle for democracy.

[Kim] Do you intend to run for the general elections under the proportional representation system?

[Pak] I have given up running for the elections in the Chong-no electoral district in Seoul, assuming responsibility for the failure in unifying the opposition camp. How can I consider running under the proportional representation system? However, I will follow the party's decision.

Government, Police View Steps Against Radicals
SK16039 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
16 Apr 88 p 3

[Text] The government and police are stepping up efforts to discourage radical university students from attempting to block the April 26 general elections.

The Education Ministry has told universities in Seoul to keep a close check on students of other colleges trying to stage joint antigovernment demonstrations.

Students of major universities in Seoul, including Seoul National, Korea and Yonsei, are reportedly planning to stage a large-scale joint protest early next week to observe the April 19 Student Movement.

Students who attempt to prevent other students from taking midterm tests, schedule for next week, will be punished, the ministry said yesterday.

The universities plan to ask police to stop violent students from taking to the streets, it said.

"University professors also are required to redouble their efforts to protect bona fide students from suffering disadvantages due to radical activities by some politically-disaffected students," a ministry official said.

DJP Blames Opposition for Violence
SK170239 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
17 Apr 88 p 1

[Text] The ruling DJP yesterday denounced opposition parties for the violence reported at some of the joint campaign speech rallies in the day.

In a strongly-worded statement, a party spokesman Rep. Choe Sang-chin charged that opposition parties degraded campaign rallies which should have been scenes of national festivity into sites of violent protests.

"They (the opposition) seemed to mistake an election as a means to help their anti-government movement or a revolution to take power," Choe said.

"If they continue to perpetrate such violent acts without repenting, they will be doomed to perish through the people's stern judgment," the statement read.

Burma

March Student Riots, Unrest Reviewed

BK170622 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
17 Apr 88 p 8

[By Bertil Lintner]

[Text] As an uneasy calm has returned to Rangoon after a week of violent clashes between anti-government demonstrators and security forces in March, time has come to begin reckoning the cost of restoring order in terms of bloodshed, arrests and effects on the regime's internal stability—and international repercussions.

For the first time since the military takeover in Burma in 1962, analysts are now seriously questioning the future stability of the country's government.

"The recent unrest exposed how fragile the Burmese government actually is. It is hardly a secret that it lacks widespread, popular support—but now, there are also signs of cracks within the ruling circles, and between different sections of the security apparatus, whose unity is vital for the regime's survival. Even if few people think that the fall of the government is imminent, many have adopted a 'wait-and-see' attitude and they clearly want to keep their options open," argued one observer of the political scene in Burma.

The unexpected outburst of violence began on March 12 with a brawl between two students from the prestigious Rangoon Institute of Technology (RIT) and some local youth at Sanda Win teashop in west Gyogon Ward on Insein road—one of Rangoon's major thoroughfares—and it snowballed into the main anti-government manifestation of the Burmese public since July 1962, when the capital was rocked by student protests against the military coup d'etat, which had taken place in March of that year.

There are, perhaps not surprisingly in a closed society, many conflicting accounts of the teashop incident and the subsequent, spontaneous outburst of anti-government demonstrations. But the events during these seven days that shook Rangoon could be pieced together from reports by eye-witnesses, local sources and diplomats as follows:

Saturday, March 12: Two RIT students went to Sanda Win, which also houses a clandestine gambling den behind the actual teashop. An argument erupted between them and the son of the teashop owner over the gambling debts of one of the students.

The owner turned up the music inside the teashop to conceal the loud argument in the backroom gambling den. Some customers complained about the noise, a fight broke out and one of the students was stabbed, allegedly by the teashop owner's son.

The students reported the incident to the local police who arrested the suspect—only to release him on bail shortly afterwards; the local police and officials of the "People's Council"—or administrative body—of West Gyogon Ward had all been paid off by the gambling den operators and, therefore, tried to hush up the incident.

Sunday, March 13: The RIT students, infuriated over the coverup and the release of someone who was suspected of attempted murder, marched to the teashop and set it ablaze. About 200 RIT students participated in the demonstration—and riot police were dispatched to disperse the crowd. Fourteen people, 13 of whom were students, were injured—and Maung Phone Maw, a well-known student from RIT, was shot and killed. He had been the top RIT student for two consecutive years and also associated with the youth organisation of the ruling Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP).

A nearby "People's Store"—or government-run cooperative—was also burnt down but under circumstances which remain unclear. Some sources claim that enraged students were responsible, while others assert that the owner himself torched the store, taking advantage of the fire at the teashop to destroy his own fiddled account books and depleted stocks of goods. The Burmese fiscal year ends in March and that is when government enterprises have to submit their annual accounts which means that fires are usual at that time of the year.

Monday, March 14: This was a comparatively quiet day, according to most reports. No disturbances took place although aggrieved students may have held meetings on their respective campuses to discuss the situation.

Tuesday, March 15: The authorities issued a communique blaming "unruly students" for the unrest in West Gyogon Ward—which caused widespread protests both at the RIT and the Rangoon Arts and Science University (RASU). Rallies were held on several campuses; a government official, who went to the RASU and asked the students there what their demands were, was told that "we want to overthrow the fascist regime."

By then, the protests had taken a very definite anti-government stance. RASU students demonstrated outside Kamayut Police Station, close to their campus in the northern suburbs—and riot policemen were sent to both the RIT and the RASU to break up the crowds of protesters. Many people were beaten up when the police baton-charged the crowds.

Wednesday, March 16: Crowds of students were waiting at Kyandaw cemetery near the university for the cremation of Maung Phone Maw. But no one arrived; the mourners learnt later that his dead body had been taken in an unmarked coffin, carried by a vehicle which was closely guarded by the police, to Tamwe Crematorium at the other end of Rangoon and cremated there. This enraged the students even further.

RASU students joined hands with students from the Hlaing Campus of the Institute of Economics and marched down Prome Road towards Inya Lake. The riot police chased them out into the water where many students—including several girls—were beaten unconscious, fell in the lake and drowned. Now, the anti-government feelings spread to the ordinary people who resented the brutality of the police.

Thursday, March 17: The government issued an unprecedented notification on the formation of an Enquiry Commission to investigate the unrest and the death of Maung Phone Maw. The commission is headed by Ba Maw, a member of the Council of People's Justices, Hla Tint from the Council of People's Attorneys and Dr Maung Shein of the Council of People's Inspectors.

Apparently viewing this unexpected development as a partial victory over the government, the students held a meeting on the RASU campus and announced that they had set up an independent Students' Union—but its secretary was allegedly shot and killed while giving a speech at the corner of Thukha Street. Troops effectively took over the RASU campus. Tensions between the students and the authorities escalated.

Friday, March 18: "The Bloody Friday" in Rangoon. About 300 students marched down to Sule Pagoda in central Rangoon shouting anti-government slogans such as:

"The Tatmadaw (army)"... "is useless and we have no use for it!"

"Long Live Aung San—he's our President!"

Within an hour, 12,000-15,000 people had joined the students; others were standing in their windows applauding every anti-government slogan and cheering when the demonstrators destroyed government property and set fire to a state-run department store in the city centre. About 50 policemen who had gathered outside Bandoola Park near Sule Pagoda fled when they saw the massive crowds.

But shortly afterwards, the much better equipped Lon Htein, or riot police, arrived at the scene, teargassing the crowds, unleashing baton charges and firing warning shots in the air. All the main roads leading to the city centre were blocked off for civilians, while regular army units were rushed in: elements of the 22nd Light Infantry Division (LID) arrived in lorry convoys from the Karen State Capital of Pa-an. These were followed by more elite troops from the Thaton-based 44th LID and the 77th from Hmawbi Air Base just north of Rangoon.

Old Comet tanks of World War Two vintage were positioned outside the Presidential Palace and strongman Gen Ne Win's residence. Government vehicles mounted with loud-speakers told people to stay home. At least 10 truckloads of rioters—students as well as ordinary townspeople—were seen being taken to Insein Jail,

the Yay Kyi Aing or "Clearwater Pond" Prison near Mingaladon airport and even upcountry to Tharrawaddy, 100 km north of Rangoon.

Numerous deaths were reported from indiscriminate baton charges, occasional police firing and by beatings and suffocation in overcrowded prison cells after the swoops in central Rangoon.

The people in Rangoon are now waiting for the Enquiry Commission's report which is to be submitted to the Council of State no later than today—and many people seem to feel that this will be an important test for the government; a report that clears the security forces is bound to upset the students and the general public—but, on the other hand, the police would most probably find it hard to accept a verdict which implicates them in the killings. This may be especially so since the man who directed the police operations was Sein Lwin, the secretary of the Council of State and number three in the overall Burmese hierarchy. Sein Lwin's rise to prominence began after the July 1962 riots, which he also put down with an iron-fist; observers then placed the number of casualties in the hundreds.

"Most probably, the government would have to find a scapegoat which could be either the insurgents or foreigners," said one diplomatic source.

There are already indications that this may be the case. Maung Phone Maw was reportedly shot by an M-16, a rifle which in Burma is used only by various Thai border-based insurgent groups—and by the police which are issued with weapons captured from the rebels.

"It's quite possible that the blame will be put on an agent provocateur from the insurgents to clear the police and avoid upsetting the students," the diplomat commented.

As for the "foreign" involvement, several Rangoon-based diplomats noted that a large number of Muslims of Indian origin—who are not considered full Burmese citizens under the Citizenship Act of 1982—were subjected to arbitrary arrests in the evening of March 18 when they came out from their Friday Jumma prayers in mosques in central Rangoon. According to one observer: "The government managed to turn resentment over the 1967 rice shortage into an anti-Chinese riot in Rangoon. This could well happen again, but now the Muslims seem to be the target."

While the 1967 Chinatown riots in Rangoon triggered off massive Chinese support for the insurgent Communist Party of Burma (CPB), attacks on the Muslim community in the capital may well provoke a similar reaction from militant, revivalist movements in the Islamic world. The difference, of course, is that the Muslim forces outside Burma would not support the isolated CPB, but the potentially much more influential non-communist groups in Burma.

"It doesn't really matter whether these groups are Muslims or not. The main thing is that they are against the present Burmese government—and prepared to fight to protect Muslim interests. And I believe that contacts already have been made between some insurgent groups in Burma and certain Muslim countries in view of this development. The insurgents have also issued statements supporting the students in Rangoon and smuggled tape recordings into the capital," asserted one knowledgeable inside source who requested anonymity.

This development highlights a serious threat to the present regime in Rangoon: if the insurgency spreads to the urban areas it could pose a direct challenge to the regime itself—and accelerate the split which many sources claim has surfaced between "hardliners" such as Sein Lwin and more liberal, reform-orientated government officials.

The same school of thought argues that if the recent, spontaneous outburst of anti-government activity in Rangoon could snowball into a mass-movement, a second, similar wave of protests could lead to elements of the security forces spontaneously joining in.

"Then, it could snowball even further. Given the present political and economic crisis in Burma, it needs very little to tip the balance. People are just waiting for someone to take the first step," argued one analyst. But who that "someone" might be is a question nobody can answer; Burma has no equivalent [to] Ninoy or Cory Aquino in the Philippines. The leaderless nature of the recent mass movement was clearly emphasised by the students' proclaiming as their leader the nationalist hero Aung San—who was assassinated in 1947, 20 years before many of the demonstrators in Rangoon last month were even born.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Brunei

ROK's Choe Kwang-su Arrives for 3-Day Visit
SK170326 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
17 Apr 88 p 2

[Text] Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei (Special)—South Korean Foreign Minister Choe Kwang-su expressed hope that Korean construction companies will be given more opportunities to participate in economic development projects in Brunei.

Choe told his Brunei counterpart, Mohamed Bolkiah, yesterday that his government is ready to increase technical efforts.

Choe and Bolkiah agreed to exert joint efforts to expand trade and economic exchange between the two countries, a spokesman for Choe said.

Choe arrived here Friday [15 April] for a three-day visit on a leg of his tour of five ASEAN countries.

Malaysia

Mahathir Launches Loyalty With People Campaign
BK151358 Kuala Lumpur RTM Television Network 1
in Malay 1200 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Excerpt] Malaysia will soon become a fully sovereign country respected by other nations if only there are no troublemakers in the country. Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed said these people tend to spoil things.

He was speaking when launching the Loyalty With the People [Semarak] campaign in Kampung Gajah, Perak, today. This kampung [village] saw the advent of movement to oppose the colonialists 100 years ago. More than 30,000 people attended the Semarak rally. The prime minister urged them to keep close watch on those who try to cause disunity.

[Begin Mahathir recording] We are free to travel everywhere in this country. The Malays are free to enter the Chinese residential areas and the Chinese are free to live in the Malay residential areas without fear. Our country is safe, but these people are trying to give the impression that our country is not safe. What is their intention? They want to discredit their own country! What do you call those who discredit their own country? Troublemakers!

Therefore, I attach great significance to this Semarak campaign and rally. We should hold rallies of this kind everywhere so the people can meet with their leaders and foster close relations between the people and government. This will enable us to understand in which direction we are heading.

We will build this country to be on the same level as other advanced countries. Our first goal is to turn this country into something known as a newly industrialized country, or NIC, such as Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, and Hong Kong. Our experts held a discussion last night, and one of them said that within 6 years our country will have a status equal to Taiwan as an NIC. [applause] [end recording] [passage omitted]

Opposition Party Urges Freedom for Detainees
BK160730 Hong Kong AFP in English 0632 GMT
16 Apr 88

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 16 (AFP)—The Malaysian opposition Democratic Action Party (DAP) renewed a call to the government of Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed Saturday to release seven DAP MP's detained without trial since October.

DAP Acting Secretary-General Lee Lam Thye told the party's triennial general assembly that government claims that the arrests were necessary to head off racial violence were "baseless, tendentious and a gross distortion of facts."

DAP chief Lim Kit Siang is among the seven MP's serving a two-year detention order with 42 other people under Malaysia's Internal Security Act (ISA).

The others include social activists, church workers and members of the fundamentalist Parti Islam Sa-Malaysia or PAS.

A government white paper released last month said their activities had heightened racial and religious tensions which threatened to flare into violence such as that in 1969. A government report said 248 people died in those clashes.

Mr. Lee however called the white paper a "whitewash" to appease extremists in Dr. Mahathir's United Malays National Organisation (UMNO), an ethnic Malay party that headed Malaysia's ruling National Front coalition until its deregistration in February.

Mr. Lee referred to a "power struggle" that has pitted Dr. Mahathir against his former trade and industry minister Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah.

He said statements made by top members of Dr. Mahathir's administration in the course of the struggle that led to UMNO's deregistration were responsible for the heightened ethnic tensions.

Mr. Lee called the arrests of the seven DAP MP's "an obvious attempt to stifle and suppress dissent."

He said that the DAP would intensify its international campaign to secure the release of its seven MP's and the others being held, adding that 80 international organisations had already protested over the arrests.

The DAP won 24 of the 177 seats in the lower house in the 1986 general election but its victories came mostly in areas where ethnic Chinese voters were in the majority.

ROK's Choe Comments on Development Plans
SK160141 Seoul YONHAP in English
0130 GMT 16 Apr 88

[Text] Seoul, April 16 (YONHAP)—South Korea plans to actively support Malaysia's Look-East policy by training Malaysian students studying industrial technology in Korea and dispatching experts and students to Malaysia, Foreign Minister Choe Kwang-su said Friday [15 April].

During a news conference at the end of his three-day visit to Malaysia, Choe said South Korea will assist Malaysia in such fields as electronics, communication, machinery and automobiles, according to a report of the Korean Embassy in Kuala Lumpur to the Foreign Ministry here.

Choe added that Korea plans this year to contribute 100,000 U.S. dollars to the South Commission which was established in 1986 under the initiative of Malaysia's Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamed and invite 14 Malaysian students for training in agriculture, science, technology and economic development.

Choe, on a tour of five member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), left Malaysia Friday for Brunei. He is scheduled to return home on April 20.

Farewell Ceremony for Australian Air Squadron

Rithauddeen Comments on Bases
BK161044 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
1001 GMT 16 Apr 88

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 16 April (BERNAMA)—The status of foreign military bases in the region should "remain as it is" until the concept of a nuclear-free zone in the region proposed by ASEAN is fully realized by all parties concerned, Defense Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen said today.

However, once the nuclear-free zone concept is implemented, all foreign military bases in this region must go so that there would not be any imbalance of power, he told reporters at a joint press conference with Australian Defense Minister Kim Beazley held at Butterworth, 400 km northwest of here.

The press conference was held following a farewell ceremony to mark the redeployment of the Mirage squadron of the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) from the airbase here.

The RAAF has maintained a base here since Malaysian independence, but has gradually wound down its presence here.

When asked about the future of the United States military bases in the region under the nuclear-free zone concept proposed at last December's ASEAN summit in Manila, Tengku Rithauddeen said, "Until the actual realization of the concept let it remain as it is."

He said the Integrated Air Defense System [IADS] to which Malaysia and Australia belong, was "something very important to us (Malaysia)." The other IADS signatories are Britain, New Zealand, and Singapore.

Tengku Rithauddeen said Malaysia and Australia had enjoyed a close military relationship since World War II, adding that "I feel other countries should not feel unhappy about our arrangements because it is of benefit to both Malaysia and Australia and to the region."

Beazley reaffirmed the Australian Government's support for the Five Power Defense Arrangement, signed by Malaysia, Australia, Britain, New Zealand and Singapore in November 1971.

"We believe the arrangement continues to contribute very effectively to the common security interests of all countries in the region," he said.

"The deployment of Hornet aircraft from Australia rather than continuing to station RAAF fighter aircraft permanently in Butterworth, is dictated by technical considerations, and not by any decline in our support for regional security."

The Hornets are being deployed from Australia because of their sophisticated infrastructure and long-term maintenance requirements, he said, adding that there was also "no problem" with Indonesia regarding the overflight of Hornet aircraft on their deployments to Malaysia from northern Australian bases.

Beazley said, "As well as the commencement of the Hornet deployments, which will be supplemented by F-111 long-range strike aircraft deployments, we have also decided from the end of the year to commence continuous rotational deployments of Royal Australian Air Navy major combatants (warships) to Southeast Asian waters."

He said, "Australian military deployments to Southeast Asia and our other defense activities in this region will continue to adapt and evolve in line with deployments."

Both Tengku Rithauddeen and Beazley signed an agreement on the future presence of the Australian defense force at Butterworth after the farewell parade Saturday.

Mirage squadrons of the RAAF had been stationed at the airbase since 1967.

Defense Ministers Depart

*BK170650 Kuala Lumpur International
Service in English 0600 GMT 17 Apr 88*

[Text] Australian Defense Minister Mr Kim Beazley left Butterworth for Singapore this morning after a brief visit. He was seen off at the Royal Malaysian Air Force Base by his Malaysian counterpart, Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen. Earlier, at the Bayan Lepas International Airport, Singapore Second Defense Minister Dr Yeo Ning Hong also left for home. He was seen off by the secretary general of the Defense Ministry, Datuk Nasruddin Bahari.

Both the Australian and Singapore ministers arrived in Butterworth on Friday [15 April] for the farewell parade to mark the withdrawal of the 29th Squadron of the Royal Australian Air Force from the air base.

Rithauddeen Meets With Official

*BK180550 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
0510 GMT 18 Apr 88*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 18 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Australian Defense Secretary Allan J. Woods Monday called on Defense Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen here as part of his 3-day visit to Malaysia.

A ministry spokesman said that during the meeting, Woods reaffirmed Australia's continued commitment to the 5-power defense arrangement which also involves Singapore, Britain, and New Zealand.

He said the discussions also covered the Australian defense forces' future presence at the air base in Butterworth up north where a farewell ceremony to mark the departure of the Mirage fighter squadron stationed there was held on Saturday.

After that farewell ceremony, an agreement on the Australian defense forces' presence in Butterworth was signed between Tengku Rithauddeen and his Australian counterpart, Kim Beazley.

Singapore

ROK's Choe Arrives, Comments on Trade

*BK171149 Singapore Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 17 Apr 88*

[Text] The visiting South Korean foreign minister, Mr Choe Kwang-su, says his country is interested in improving trade and investment in newly industrialized countries like Singapore. He says South Korea is encouraging its private sector to invest more abroad, and Singapore is a very good place to do so. Mr Choe said South Korea's trade had depended too much on the industrialized countries like the United States, Japan, and Western Europe.

Mr Choe is in Singapore on a 3-day official visit at the invitation of the foreign minister and minister for national development, Mr Dhanabalan. He was met on arrival at the airport today by the Foreign Ministry parliamentary secretary, Mr Yatiman Yusof.

The South Korean foreign minister said his country attached great importance to relations with ASEAN as a group and also with the individual member countries.

Mr Choe will call on the acting prime minister and defense minister, Mr Goh Chok Tong, tomorrow. He will also hold discussions with his Singapore counterpart, Mr Dhanabalan, and address members of the Singapore Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

Mr Choe's visit to Singapore is the final leg of his tour of five ASEAN countries. This is his first trip abroad as foreign minister under the new South Korean Government of President No Tae-u.

Cambodia

Foreign Ministry Condemns PRC on Spratlys
*BK171410 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1300 GMT 18 Apr 88*

["PRK Foreign Ministry Statement"]

[Text] Ignoring the Vietnamese people's protests and the SRV Government's goodwill and constructive proposal to resolve the Hoang Sa [Paracel] and Truong Sa [Spratly] Archipelago conflict through peaceful negotiations, the Chinese authorities continue to increase deliberate and brutal provocative activities in violation of the SRV's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

More serious still, on 13 April 1988, a session of the PRC's Seventh National People's Congress adopted a resolution creating Hainan Province, which incorporates the (?submerged) islands and the sea area around Vietnam's Hoang Sa and Truong Sa Archipelagoes. These provocative activities and the stubborn attitude of the Chinese authorities have further clearly demonstrated great China's expansionist and hegemonist policy, which China has always adhered to and implemented. Everyone knows about this.

China's inclusion of Vietnam's Hoang Sa and Truong Sa Archipelagoes in its newly created Hainan Province is aimed at legitimizing the annexation of these islands. This is a serious violation of international law and is contrary to the interests of the two countries' peoples. It tramples upon peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific region and runs counter to the tendency developing in the region and the world to resolve conflicts through peaceful talks.

The PRK Government and the Cambodian people firmly condemn China's expansionist policy and hostile activities, and demand that the Chinese authorities immediately stop these unfriendly and expansionist acts and respond to the SRV's goodwill by negotiating with the Vietnamese to resolve the two countries' conflict over these two groups of islands. The PRK proclaims its full support for the SRV Foreign Ministry statement dated 13 April 1988 and reaffirms the militant solidarity and its resolute support for the struggle of the heroic fraternal Vietnamese people to defend their independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

The inclusion of Vietnam's Hoang Sa and Truong Sa Archipelagoes into China's Hainan Province is a completely illegal act and worthless.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 17 April 1988

Further on Statement

*BK181242 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1122 GMT
18 Apr 88*

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK April 18—The Foreign Ministry of the People's Republic of Kampuchea fully supports the statement issued by the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry on April 13, regarding the Truong Sa [Spratly] Archipelago.

The statement made public here yesterday by the Kampuchean Foreign Ministry says:

"By turning a deaf ear to the protest of the Vietnamese people and the goodwill proposals of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for the settlement of the conflict through negotiations the Chinese authorities have further intensified their provocations against Vietnam's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Worse still, on April 13 the People's National Congress of China adopted a decision on the incorporation of Vietnam's Hoang Sa [Paracel] and Truong Sa Archipelagos into the Chinese Province of Hainan.

"These moves have revealed China's big-nation expansionist policy. The incorporation of the Vietnamese archipelagos into Hainan Province is aimed at legalizing China's annexation of these areas, therefore it gravely tramples upon the international law and runs counter to the interest of peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asian and the Asian-Pacific regions. This move also goes against the prevailing trend in the region and the world as a whole toward the settlement of all conflicts by peaceful means."

The statement continues:

"The PRK Government and the Kampuchean people strongly condemn the expansionist policy and hostile acts of China and demand that the Chinese authorities put an immediate end to these acts, positively respond to the goodwill of Vietnam, and sit at the negotiating table for the settlement of the conflict between the two countries.

"The People's Republic of Kampuchea fully supports the April 13 statement of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry and reaffirms its militant solidarity with and firm support to the Vietnamese people in their struggle for national independence and territorial sovereignty."

"The decision on the incorporation of Vietnam's Hoang Sa and Truong Sa Archipelagos into the Chinese Province of Hainan is null and void," the statement says in conclusion.

CGDK Leaders Send New Year Messages

Son Sann Sends Greetings

BK130932 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer
in Cambodian 0430 GMT 13 Apr 88

[13 April Cambodian traditional New Year greetings to the Cambodian people from KPNLF President and CGDK Prime Minister Son Sann—recorded]

[Excerpt] My homage to all venerable Buddhist monks. Greetings to all compatriots in the country, along the border, and abroad.

On the occasion of this new year, the Year of the Dragon, we should look at how much our national liberation struggle has achieved. How can we accelerate it in response to the hopes of our Cambodian people? [Words indistinct] as I have informed you, the international community has brought considerable pressure to bear on Vietnam. For example, the United Nations over the past 9 years, France, Europe, the United States where President Reagan [words indistinct] to have Vietnam pull its troops out of Cambodia. Recently, as you all have heard, China clashed with Vietnam on the Spratly Islands, where some Vietnamese ships were set ablaze and a number of their crew captured by China.

If the United States helped us in the same way it is helping Afghanistan, we would have a greater means of intensifying [words indistinct] in Cambodia. If this could be done, we can be certain that Vietnam would agree to negotiate the withdrawal of its troops from our country. What then can we do to get sufficient aid from the United States? The United States has faulted us on three counts: First, it said we are prone to splits; second, that we have violated human rights; and third, that our combatants have not conducted enough activities inside Cambodia.

Therefore, if we want to get sufficient U.S. aid, we must first strengthen our ranks, have a greater esprit de corps, and observe discipline and order. If any commander displays a lack of discipline, his subordinates will surely imitate him and will not respect discipline. Without discipline there can be no unity. Therefore, I call on all to observe discipline and good order—all of you from the big chieftains down to the foot soldiers. Only in this way can we maintain unity.

Second, the United States has charged that we have violated human rights. On this point I would like to appeal to all brothers, including the combatants on the side under Vietnamese control, [words indistinct], and follow our front's political line by helping, serving, and protecting the Khmer people, refraining from using the

Khmer people [words indistinct] and harming them. In my capacity as president of the KPNLF, I call for the convening of an international conference on human rights to monitor human rights violations and earnestly call for an end to such violations—if there are any at all—because our Cambodian people have suffered long and badly enough. I call for a conference to monitor human rights violations and to see to it that the human rights of our compatriots in Cambodia are not violated.

Third, it was urged that greater attention be paid to intensifying activities inside Cambodia. This is the task of the commander in chief. It should be made clear that [words indistinct]. I urge all of you officers to listen to the aspirations and wishes of all of our fighters, particularly those senior fighters who have waged the struggle longer than we have. All of your fighters, old and new alike, are volunteers. If we want these volunteers to serve the front and fight courageously, we must see to it that they trust us. To win their trust, we must be fair. Without fairness, I [words indistinct] in the ranks of all fighters who have voluntarily offered their lives for [words indistinct].

Before we can fulfill these three conditions to win sufficient aid from that rich country, we must, and we can, do the following:

First, we must train our youths and provide vocational education to our compatriots, such as those in the camps, to give them hope that once they return to the country they will be able to get jobs and survive. We must start immediately on the training of cadres for the reconstruction of Cambodia in anticipation of the time when we will be able to return home. Moreover, we must ask international opinion to help us so that in the future all Cambodians respect human rights. All of you compatriots inside the country must realize that you will have the power to decide your own destiny in the near future; for there will soon be a free general election, as a result of a CGDK request that called for a free general election to be held under the supervision of the United Nations, the protection of an international peacekeeping force, and the control of an international committee.

The KPNLF has a duty to help, serve, and protect the Khmer people. It calls on all Khmer to be ready to take back the fertile land grabbed by the Vietnamese [words indistinct] in the rural as well as urban areas, and exploit it for your own use along with all other resources now being plundered and taken by Vietnam, such as fish, rubber, timber, and rice. This is a duty and a wish that today, on the occasion of the new year, I formulate.

I extend all my best wishes for long life, health, happiness, strength, and recovery to all of you. I pray that our country be liberated very soon from Vietnamese control. I also pray that a quadripartite coalition government be established without fail to organize this free, general election to allow our compatriots to exercise their right to self-determination.

Before concluding, I pray to the goddess of the new Year of the Dragon to take care of and provide protection to you all, combatants as well as civilians, and to help fulfill all of your aspirations. [passage omitted]

Khieu Samphan Statement

BK150156 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 14 Apr 88

["New Year statement by His Excellency Khieu Samphan, DK vice president in charge of foreign affairs, conveying wishes to cadres and combatants of the DK National Army on the traditional New Year, the Year of the Dragon, 2531 Buddhist era, and on DK's 13th founding anniversary"—recorded]

[Text] Respected and beloved comrades in arms of the DK National Army and compatriots:

On the occasion of our country's traditional New Year, the Year of the Dragon, 2531 of the Buddhist era, and on our DK's 13th founding anniversary, I would like to greet with most profound sentiments all comrades in arms of the DK National Army, comrades in arms of the transport unit, comrades in arms in all ministries and services, our entire people, and all our compatriots. I would also like to wish all comrades in arms, our entire people, and all our compatriots good health and new and greater successes in the great national unity struggle to liberate our beloved Cambodian nation and motherland from the Vietnamese enemy aggressors.

The noble heroism of all comrades in arms and our entire people in this arduous struggle has already been inscribed in the pages of our nation's history, because the struggle to liberate our beloved Cambodian nation from the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and race exterminators over the past over 9 years is not an ordinary event. It has a very profound national significance. During the past year, as well as in the past 9 years, all comrades in arms, our entire people, and all our compatriots have braved all kinds of obstacles, united, and made efforts to struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors militarily, politically, and diplomatically. This has constantly advanced our struggle, forced the Vietnamese enemy into a total impasse, and bogged it down on the battlefield of aggression in Cambodia, in Vietnam, and in the international arena.

Therefore, on this very auspicious occasion, all comrades in arms, our entire people, and all our compatriots, please remain with the great national unity and strive further to struggle militarily, politically, and diplomatically. Only by firmly adhering to the great national unity can we have friends the world over assisting us and can we have enough force, both inside and outside the country, to wage the struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors to liberate our beloved Cambodian motherland.

In such a complex world political geography and regional political geography in Southeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific, only by firmly adhering to the great national unity policy in a liberal democratic regime—as we have clearly spelled out—can we, in the future, have friends the world over assisting and supporting us and contributing to the force ensuring the survival of our Cambodian motherland as an independent, peaceful, neutral, and nonaligned Cambodia.

Also on this occasion, all of us would like to express once again most profound gratitude to the many countries and peoples the world over who have constantly assisted and supported our Cambodian people's just struggle. All of us appeal to them to continue to assist and support this struggle until the Vietnamese aggressors agree to resolve the Cambodian problem politically by pulling out all their aggressor forces from Cambodia and respecting the Cambodian people's right to self-determination without any outside interference.

Long live the great national unity to struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors!

Long live independent, unified, peaceful, neutral, and nonaligned Cambodia!

Prince Ranariddh's Message

BK150716 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 14 Apr 88

["New Year greetings message from His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Ranariddh, personal representative of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk in Cambodia and Asia and commander in chief of the Sihanoukist National Army [ANS], to compatriots"—recorded]

[Text] On the occasion of the traditional New Year of our Cambodian nation to be held on the 12th waxing moon of the fifth lunar month of the Year of the Dragon, which falls on 13 April 1988, I, Norodom Ranariddh, personal representative of Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk in Cambodia and Asia and commander in chief of the ANS, am very glad to bow my head in bidding farewell to the gods of the old year and welcoming the gods of the new year, and to extend best wishes to all venerable Buddhist monks; Cambodian people throughout the country; all male and female members of the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia (FUNCINPEC) both inside and outside the country; and male and female combatants of the ANS who valiantly and courageously are carrying out the great patriotic mission in order to drive the Vietnamese enemy aggressors out of our beloved motherland.

Venerable Buddhist monks; most beloved and most revered compatriots: "The fifth month marks our new year" is a phrase uttered almost automatically by all Cambodians. It is a time when we recall the days when we used to get together harmoniously and happily with

our fathers, mothers, families, relations, friends, brothers, and sisters during the time our country was peaceful and glorious for several centuries—before it fell into decline, chaos, war, and conflicts—to the time when our Cambodians were firmly united, had lofty nationalist spirit, and were alive in all aspects. That was the time when the international press and observers of goodwill named our country “the island of peace”—the time when our country was under the clear-sighted and wise leadership of Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, father of independence and outstanding leader.

It is true that from the time our country regained independence from French colonialism on 9 November 1953, that is, for a period of more than 16 years, Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk made every effort, physically and mentally, to seek a (?line) in conformity with Lord Buddha's teaching to enable the Cambodian people throughout the country to live together with peace, love, and respect for each other as compatriots of one family. But, unfortunately, our country again fell into the flames of another cruel war, which was the bad consequence that has brought misery and suffering to every Cambodian for the past nearly 20 years. Nothing can compare and no words can describe all this untold misery and suffering.

Recalling the glorious memories during the era of samdech euv, on the occasion of this Cambodian New Year, I extend greetings and best wishes to all venerable Buddhist monks, grandfathers, grandmothers, uncles, aunts, compatriots, male and female combatants, male and female members of the FUNCINPEC. May all of you enjoy happiness and be free from all misery, sufferings, and illnesses.

Particularly, I pray to the three gems [Buddha, his teachings, and his disciples] and all the sacred objects which have helped, protected, and guarded the Cambodian nation since time immemorial, the souls of the Cambodian kings and forefathers, and all the new year gods to please bring full possibilities to solving the problem of our beloved country to get a reasonable response as wished for by the Cambodian compatriots in general in accordance with the correct line of our worshipful samdech euv; that is, a Cambodia which is 100 percent independent, peaceful, neutral, noncommunist, and nonsocialist. This is the correct formula which respects the interests of all conflicting groups in the Cambodian issue. This formula of Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk is the only formula which may bring peace to Cambodia and all countries in our Southeast Asia.

[Signed] Norodom Ranariddh

Khieu Samphan Greets PRC Foreign Minister
BK160210 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 15 Apr 88

[DK Vice President for Foreign Affairs Khieu Samphan's 12 April greetings message to new PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen]

[Text] To His Excellency Qian Qichen, PRC minister of foreign affairs; Beijing:

Esteemed Excellency, on your appointment as PRC minister of foreign affairs, I am extremely pleased on behalf of the Cambodian people and the CGDK and in my own name to express our warmest congratulations and best wishes to you. May Your Excellency enjoy the best of health, happiness, and constant successes in your new noble mission.

I take the opportunity of this auspicious occasion on behalf of the Cambodian people and the CGDK and in my own name to reiterate our deepest gratitude to you and, through you, to the friendly Chinese Government and people for giving powerful and consistent assistance and support to the just cause of the national liberation and race-preserving struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors waged by the Cambodian people and the CGDK, with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as president of the DK. I would like to express my high appreciation for the bonds of traditional friendship and close cooperation linking our two peoples and countries and my firm conviction that this excellent relationship will develop and blossom forever.

Excellency, please accept my highest regards.

[Dated] DK, 12 April 1988

[Signed] Khieu Samphan, DK vice president in charge of foreign affairs

Kompong Som-Phnom Penh Train Hits Mine
BK180020 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 17 Apr 88

[Text] On 6 April, a Vietnamese train moving from Kompong Som to Phnom Penh hit our land mine at Prek Chik in the western part of Kampot District on Kompong Som battlefield. The train was damaged by the explosion and some Vietnamese soldiers on the train were killed or wounded.

Indonesia

Alatas 'Plays Down' Border Crossing Incident
BK160727 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 16 Apr 88

[Text] Indonesia's foreign minister, Mr Ali Alatas, has played down reports of Indonesian troops chasing Irian Jayan separatist rebels into Papua New Guinea as no cause for worry. He said in Jakarta that such incidents were bound to happen because the 800-km border was poorly marked and joint cooperation bodies from both countries could handle problems smoothly.

The Indonesian foreign minister was speaking a day after Papua New Guinea's defense minister, Mr James Pokasui, had said Indonesian troops crossed into Papua New Guinea earlier this month in pursuit of separatist rebels from Irian Jaya.

Two Indonesian civilians were reportedly killed in a rebel attack on a resettlement camp just inside Indonesia, while three other Indonesians kidnapped by the rebels are said to have been released.

Mr Alatas declined to comment on any of the reports, saying he has not yet received complete details of the incident.

SRV Vice Minister Visits Military Institute
OW161005 Hanoi VNA in English 0702 GMT
16 Apr 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 16—Tran Quang Co, vice-minister for foreign affairs and head of a Vietnamese delegation to the current 44th conference of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in Jakarta, has visited the Indonesian Military Institute.

He conferred with the director of the institute Subiharto on the necessity and possibility of establishing a zone of lasting peace, stability and friendly cooperation beneficial to all countries in Southeast Asia.

Director Subiharto expressed his hope that the cooperation between Indonesia and Vietnam would be further promoted and broadened in all domains. He held that all current disputes between nations should be resolved by peaceful negotiations and not by force.

On April 14, Vice-Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co paid a courtesy visit to R. Abdulgani, advisor to President Suharto. Referring to his article "Peking's Red Dragon Spitting Fire Over the Spratly Islands", published by the Indonesian papers "OBSERVER" and "MERDEKA" on March 25, 1988, R. Abdulgani said he wanted to make the young Indonesian generation understand, through his writing, the historic inevitability of the Indonesian-Vietnamese friendly relations.

The same day, Tran Quang Co also called at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (C.S.I.S.) of Indonesia.

Intergovernmental Aid Group Chairman Arrives
BK180511 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0328 GMT
18 Apr 88

[Text] Jakarta, April 18 (ANTARA)—Chairman of the Inter-Governmental Group on Indonesia (IGGI) Drs [academic title] Piet Bukman arrived here Sunday evening for a 1-week [visit] to Indonesia, during which he will make an evaluation on the implementation of various development projects financed by the group.

He was greeted at Sukarno-Hatta International Airport here by Coordinating Minister for Economy, Finance, and Industry Drs Radius Prawiro.

In his statement upon his arrival, he said that his current visit to the country is aimed at closely observing the use of funds derived from the IGGI in the last one year.

In addition, he went on, he will also make an evaluation on the implementation of various development projects financed by the group, and results of the evaluation report will soon be submitted to the IGGI meeting scheduled for next June in the Hague.

The Hague meeting will determine a total soft-loan to be granted to the Indonesian Government to finance the country's development projects in the coming year.

Answering a question on the possibility of the increasing or decreasing of the loan, Bukman, who is also the Dutch minister for development cooperation, said that it's up to the next June meeting.

Last year, he went on, the IGGI increased its total loan from U.S \$2.5 billion in 1986 to U.S. \$3.16 billion due to three factors.

The three factors were the drastic drop in the oil price in the world market, the declining of the U.S. dollar against yen currency, and the Japanese Government offered a greater loan than before.

It was an exceptional year for Indonesia, Bukman said. However, he said, the donor countries hailed the policies taken by the Indonesian Government in coping with the economic situation.

Before returning home, the IGGI chairman is scheduled to pay a courtesy call on President Suharto on April 26.

On Monday, he has meetings with State Minister for Development Planning/Chairman of Bappenas [National Development Planning Board] Prof Sumarlin, Trade Minister Arifin Siregar, Governor of Bank Indonesia Adrianus Mooy, and the junior minister for development planning/vice chairman of Bappenas. On Monday afternoon, he will meet with Home Affairs Minister Rudini, State Minister for Population Affairs and the Environment Prof Emil Salim, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, and Religious Affairs Minister Munawir Syadzali.

He will also make field trips to Bandung, Yogyakarta, Surabaya, Malang, and Ujungpandang in South Sulawesi to closely observe various development projects financed by the IGGI loans.

He will also sign a (?memorandum) of understanding with Minister Munawir Syadzali prior to his departure for home.

Court Sentences Two Muslim Militants to Jail
*BK161314 Hong Kong AFP in English 1256 GMT
16 Apr 88*

[Text] Jakarta, April 16 (AFP)—A court here Saturday passed down jail sentences of eight and seven years on Moslem militants found guilty on subversion charges of trying to set up an Islamic state in Indonesia.

The court said Alimin Sirajudin and Iskandar Abdul Rasjid, both 39, were active members of the outlawed Islamic State of Indonesia (NII) group which seeks the establishment of an Islamic state.

The Government of Indonesia, where some 90 percent of the 174 million population are Moslem, views attempts to establish any theocratic state as subversion.

The prosecution sought 10 year jail sentences for the two men who were said to have held positions in the NII's Fund Raising Department.

They were found guilty of having taken part in a murder and robbery attempts in 1985 and 1986 in an effort to get money for the group's activities.

Two other members of the group were sentenced to life and 15 years jail respectively earlier this year for their part in NII criminal activities.

The defence and prosecution asked time to consider whether to appeal.

Laos

Indochinese Planning Conference Press Release
*BK151155 Vientiane KPL in English
0926 GMT 15 Apr 88*

["Press Release on Indochinese Planning Conference"—KPL headline]

[Text] Vientiane, April 13 (KPL)—A conference on the coordinated planning among the three Indochinese countries was held here on April 11.

The delegations of Laos, Vietnam, and Kampuchea were respectively led by Sali Vongkhamso, Politburo member of the LPRP CC, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Committee of the Lao PDR, Dong Sy Nguyen, Politburo member of the CPV CC, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Dao Ngoc Xuan, member of the CPV CC, chairman of the State Planning Committee of the SR of Vietnam [SRV], Chea Chanto, alternate member of the PRPK [KPRP] CC, minister of planning of the PRK.

The conference assessed the present situation in the world, in Southeast Asia and in Indochina. The sides informed each other about the implementation of the 1987-88 plan on economic and social development in

each country. They also reviewed the results of the past cooperation among the three Indochinese countries and worked out a new action plan on cooperation and mutual help.

The conference focussed attention on the solidarity and cooperation among Laos, Vietnam, and Kampuchea, which will guarantee success in the future. The sides reaffirmed their resolve in strengthening even more the special solidarity and all-round cooperation among three Indochinese countries.

The delegations expressed their determination to jointly overcome their shortcomings in the spirit of the new conception. Also worked out at the conference were programmes on cooperation aimed at improving and developing the potential in each country. The conference also discussed ways, principles and measures for the economic and cultural cooperation among the three Indochinese countries.

The conference was held in an atmosphere of close fraternal friendship, and unanimously agreed on all questions which were raised.

Minutes of Indochina Health Conference Signed
*BK151118 Vientiane KPL in English
0908 GMT 15 Apr 88*

["Minutes on the 4th Indochinese Conference of Public Health"—KPL headline]

[Text] Vientiane, April 15 (KPL)—Minutes on the 4th Indochinese conference of public health [ministers] were signed here on April 14 by Khamliang Phonsena, Dang Hoi Xuan and Yit Kimseng, respectively Lao, Vietnamese, and Kampuchean ministers of public health.

The conference was held in Vientiane on April 11-14.

Plans on health cooperation between Laos-Vietnam and Laos-Kampuchea for 1988-1990 were also signed here in the same day.

The conference had discussion on a (?wide) range of issues pertaining to measures of sanitation against communicable diseases and for mother and child care.

The sides, on the other hand, reaffirmed the need to strengthen special cooperation between the three Indochinese countries and the rest of the fraternal socialist countries as well as with friendly developing countries and international organizations.

The public health ministers of Indochinese countries also expressed their support to the health orientation adopted at the 26th conference of socialist countries' public health ministers held in Moscow in December 1987. They also welcomed the 27th conference of public

health ministers of socialist countries which is scheduled to be held in Prague in 1989 under the motto "Raising the significance and role of sanitation for the people's health."

The fifth conference of public health ministers of the three Indochinese countries will be held in Phnom Penh in 1991.

Phoumi Meets Delegations

BK151138 *Vientiane KPL in English*
0913 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Text] Vientiane, April 15 (KPL)—Phoumi Vongvichit, Politburo member of the LPRP CC, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, acting-president of the Republic and president of the Lao Front for National Construction, on April 14, received here public health delegations of Vietnam and Kampuchea respectively led by ministers Dang Hoi Xuan and Yit Kimseng.

Phoumi Vongvichit hailed the success of the fourth conference of the health ministers of the three Indochinese countries describing it as a significant event with respect to health cooperation among the Indochinese countries which he said will contribute to better health care for these peoples as a whole. This manifestation also helps to further strengthen relations and special solidarity among the parties, governments and peoples of Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea.

New Year Celebration Held at Thai Border

BK161028 *Vientiane KPL in English*
0900 GMT 16 Apr 88

[Text] Vientiane, April 16 (KPL)—Friendship new year celebration, traditionally observed among others in the region by the Lao and Thai peoples was held on April 13 at Lao Meuang Phe hamlet, Boten District, Sayaboury Province and Thai Muang Phe hamlet, Na Haeo District, Loei Province.

The hamlets located at the Lao-Thai border serve as offices of the Joint Lao-Thai Military Commission which supervises the cease-fire and subsequent activities as agreed by both countries' military delegations.

Attending the celebration were Major General Thonglai Kommasit, deputy head of the General Political Department of the Lao People's Army and Wisut Singhakhachonworakun, deputy governor of the Thai Loei Province, Lao and Thai high-ranking officers, as well as civilian officials and local Lao and Thai peoples.

The celebration first started with merit making in the form of giving alms to monks, the procession of Buddha's images, the "baisi"—a ceremony of wishing each other by fastening wrists with holy white threads, musical performance, a contest of local (word indistinct).

Major General Thonglai Kommasit and Wisut Singhakhachonworakun took turn to wish for the growing fruitful friendship between the two nations.

Philippines

Military Bases Agreement Review Resumes

HK180215 *Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog*
0100 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] The bilateral review of the U.S. Military Bases Agreement (MBA) will be resumed today, when Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus returns to the country (as heard) after having accompanied President Aquino on her official visit to China. Topics on the agenda will be those that were discussed before Secretary Manglapus left last week, such as the compensation package, payment methods, and others. Tony Valencia has more details:

[Begin recording] It is known that the United States has sent a military mission to the Pacific islands to scout for areas that could serve as alternative sites for the U.S. air and naval bases. This is predicated on the eventuality that the current negotiations turn out to be unfavorable to the United States, especially since the American panel has been encountering rough sailing during the ongoing review. A major development in the talks is the agreement by the United States to hold another review of the U.S. Bases Labor Agreement in July. This issue was the first item tackled when the MBA opened on the first week of the present month. The two panels are expected to set up separate panels to handle negotiations on the labor issue to take place at the same time as the current review. The Trade Union Congress of the Philippines, which represents the labor sector, says the labor review is significant for Filipinos working in the U.S. bases. [end recording]

Editorial on Optimism Over Bases Review

HK150737 *Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English* 15 Apr 88 p 4

["Editorial" column: "Manglapus' Optimism"]

[Text] Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus may have spoken too soon when he said the results of the ongoing review of the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-US Military Bases Agreement will be acceptable to both parties.

Considering the lofty—almost quixotic—goals announced by the Administration in the talks, Manglapus' prediction seemed more like a wish—a prayer, if you will—than an assertion.

Of course, many share his optimism. We're sure even the pragmatists among us, averse as they are to wishful thinking, will join in praying that Manglapus is right.

But the reality that stares us in the face seems to be in stark contrast to Manglapus' rosy prediction.

Before the start of the review, he and his panel made so much noise, among other things, about cadging from those misers in Washington "billions of dollars" for the use of Philippine baselands for the US military facilities, and for the need to implement the constitutional ban on nuclear weapons in the Philippines.

That the United States harbors such weapons on the bases here is an open secret, notwithstanding Washington's policy to "neither confirm nor deny" reports like these. Manglapus himself said so without elaborating when he spoke during recent rites marking Bataan Day.

Would Manglapus have us believe now that his panel will be able to get the Americans to agree to pay us those billions and to get rid of their nuclear weapons here?

That Manglapus is an able negotiator cannot be doubted. In fact, he even managed to put one over the Americans in that second-day "leak" that many thought he authorized because it made him look "guapo" [handsome] and made US Ambassador Nicholas Platt look like a poor fool of a hillbilly.

That Manglapus is a master orator is also unquestioned. He probably even taught some in the American panel a lesson or two in grammar.

That he has made a "good showing" is also beyond doubt. He knows this, too, and this is probably why he said, if a bit vaingloriously, that he was confident he would continue to receive the President's support as chairman of the Philippine panel.

But the Americans are crafty. They were born and raised that way. And they will remain that way, even at the expense of friends, if they must survive.

Their military bases are a matter of life and death to them. They provide physical protection to their investments in the regions that host them. And they will not hesitate to use every dirty trick in the book—even subverting host governments—to keep those bases there.

In the face of these realities which Manglapus and company cannot seem to accept, one wonders where the foreign secretary's mastery in dramatics and rhetoric will lead us.

Still we dare share Manglapus' hope. After all, is it not often said that hope is beautiful when it's all one has got?

'Practice Bomb' Said Dropped in Luisita

Clark Planes Overfly Area

HK180941 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company
DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] A bomb fell from an American jet fighter inside Hacienda Luisita, but fortunately the bomb did not explode. According to a Constabulary report filed by

Captain Aguer Ontoc, commanding officer of the 181st PC Company of the Tarlac Constabulary Command, the incident took place at around 1330 on 14 April, when three jets believed to come from the eastern portion of Clark Air Base suddenly flew very low over Barangay Pando inside Hacienda Luisita, Tarlac, Tarlac. While the three jets were flying over the area, an object fell from one of the jet planes and hit a street in Barangay Pando, followed by a loud noise and white smoke emanating from the object that lasted more than a minute.

The incident was not immediately reported to the management of Hacienda Luisita, and was only made known on 16 April 1988. When the incident was reported, the commanding officer of the 181st PC Company, headed by Captain Aguer Ontoc, accompanied by Mr Ernan Ochoco of Hacienda Luisita, rushed to Barangay Pando to investigate the incident. When they saw the object, they tried to retrieve it, but stopped upon learning that it was a bomb. The bomb, 6 inches long and 6 inches in diameter, was light blue, with the following inscription: USAF DWG-60F-30301-10.

The officials in the hacienda were afraid because of uncertainty as to whether or not the bomb might still explode. The area was cordoned off and was being guarded by the Tarlac Constabulary Command.

At around 1900 on 16 April, a Master Sergeant Duma from the 3d CSGADE [expansion unknown] Clark Air Base arrived at the hacienda and took the bomb away. He told the people there that the object which fell from the plane was just a practice bomb.

When asked for their reactions, military officials at Camp Aguinaldo all asked how the government could tolerate such incidents and said that U.S. military bases should be removed from the country.

Bing Formento reporting from Camp Aguinaldo for DZRH news.

Air Force Claims Responsibility

OW181357 Tokyo KYODO in English 1347 GMT
18 Apr 88

[Text] Manila, April 18 KYODO—The Philippine Air Force on Monday claimed responsibility for the accidental dropping of a smoke bomb near President Corazon Aquino's sprawling sugar estate, correcting an earlier constabulary report blaming the United States for the incident.

Air Force spokesman Col. Melchor Rosales said a Philippine fighter jet flying over the 6,100-hectare sugar plantation in Tarlac Province some 105 kilometers north of Manila had a defective bomb dispenser.

Rosales said the device was a "dummy unit-33," a 25-pound miniature practice bomb which emits smoke upon hitting hard surfaces but is harmless.

Earlier, the Philippine Constabulary accused fighter jets from U.S., Clark Air Base of flying over Aquino's estate and inadvertently dropping the bomb which frightened nearby villagers.

A spokesman for the Clark Air Base 80 kilometers north of Manila denied responsibility for the incident.

Aquino Returns From PRC, Reports on Visit
BK171549 Manila PNA in English 1523 GMT
17 Apr 88

[Text] Manila, 17 April (PNA)—A beaming President Aquino returned here today following a successful three-day state visit to the People's Republic of China.

The presidential plane bearing Aquino and her entourage landed at 5:45 p.m. at Villamor Airbase from Hong Kong, where the president made a one-day private visit after the China trip.

I am happy to be home, she told a small group of welcomers led by Senate President Jovito Salonga, Speaker Ramon Mitra, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos, Executive Secretary Catalino Macaraig, AFP [Armed Forces of Philippines] Chief of Staff Gen. Renato de Villa, members of her cabinet and family.

The president wearing a black suit, reported that the visit has resulted in a truer and deeper mutual understanding between the Philippines and China.

She observed, with much satisfaction, that things were handled very well while she was away.

No one can say now that political stability in the Philippines is a daily battle that must be waged by the president herself, she said.

The president reported that the Chinese leaders pledged not to support the communist insurgents in the country and to correct the trade imbalance between the two countries.

As a result of her visit, she said there is now an appreciation on China's part of what we are trying to achieve here.

The president's China trip was highlighted by her face-to-face meetings with China's top leaders headed by Deng Xiaoping and newly elected President Yang Shangkun, who both assured her of full support and non-interference in the Philippines' internal affairs.

The pledge of non-interference was made in behalf of both the Chinese Government and the Chinese Communist Party.

Another highlight of the visit was the signing of a trade protocol between the two countries aimed at increasing bilateral trade and rectifying the trade imbalance.

From the 239.5-million U.S. dollars level in 1987, the two countries agreed to try to hit the 450-million U.S. dollars volume in 1988 by buying more from each other and opening their markets to new products.

Because of its large oil purchases from China, the Philippines has been suffering a negative trade balance for many years. Its trade deficit last year amounted to 117 million U.S. dollars.

Holds News Conference

HK180825 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog
0700 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] President Corazon Aquino warned civilians who gave refuge to coup leader and ex-Colonel Gregorio Honasan. She issued the warning in her first news conference after her return from a successful visit in China. She said that Justice Secretary Sedfrey Ordenez was studying the case in light of reports that some businessmen were abetting Honasan. The president stated that if this allegation is proven true, these civilians will be dealt with accordingly.

Here is an excerpt of the news conference.

[Begin recording] [Female reporter] A few days after you departed for China, the military arrested some accomplices of Gringo Honasan. According to Ensign Mojica, despite the government's efforts on their behalf, they have no regrets for what they did because they believed in the cause Honasan was fighting for. He also said that our government was a reactionary government, that it does not respond to their needs unless they stage an uprising and yet the government asks them to risk their lives fighting the NPA. Are we a reactionary government, and in your opinion, has the government not given enough to our soldiers?

[Aquino] Mojica is just one of the minority who still have grievances. The majority, and this I know because many of them told me, are grateful for what the government has given them. And I told them that they are fortunate because they are respected by all sectors of society and we are grateful for what they are doing because they put their lives on the line. However, our country is not composed solely of military, but of all Filipino citizens. As the president, I have to take into account and meet the needs of all Filipino citizens. [end recording]

At the same time, the president clarified the issue on not choosing Vice President Salvador Laurel as government caretaker in her absence. The president said that it was not that she had no faith in Mr Laurel, but that the Vice President himself resigned and withdrew from her cabinet. Hence, he could not be elected caretaker.

At the same news conference, the president again stressed the concrete results of her visit to China, rejecting suggestions that she cancel other scheduled foreign trips this year owing to the prevailing political situation in the country. According to the president, she has to undertake such trips in order to help project a positive image of the Philippines to other countries and consequently help push forward the country's economic development.

Emphasizes Economic Revival

*HK181305 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
1000 GMT 18 Apr 88*

[Excerpt] President Aquino today said that the Philippines will become the next economic miracle in Asia. According to the chief executive, her foremost priority is the country's economy. She affirmed that reviving the country's economy is far more important than the recapture of former Colonel Gringo Honasan.

The president made the statements at a rare news conference she called this morning. The president noted that while Honasan's recapture is one of her priorities, the foremost priority was the improvement of the economy.

She also expressed today her intention to push through her scheduled visits to Geneva and Italy this year. She made the announcement at a 30-minute interview with newsmen this morning. The details from Sel Baesa.

[Begin recording] The chief executive stressed that foreign countries should fully understand the true picture in the Philippines. [Aquino recording indistinct] [end recording] [passage omitted]

Editorials on Impact of Aquino's Trip to PRC

'Fruitful Journey' Lauded

*HK181149 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
in English 18 Apr 88 p 4*

[Editorial: "Twas a Fruitful Journey to China"]

[Text] The doubts about the wisdom of the President's visit to China may not have had any basis at all. As it turned out, the trip even produced more than what has been initially expected.

The impact of the visit may be felt greatest on the insurgency that the Communist Party of the Philippines has been waging over the years. While China had been assuring neighboring countries that it had stopped all moral and material support for wars of national liberation in the region, Ms Aquino's visit marked the first time the paramount leader of both the Communist Party of China and the Beijing government—Deng Xiaoping—expressed "categorical support" for Ms Aquino's

administration. In a lighter vein, this was undoubtedly more than what the President expected as a reward for the discomfort inflicted by the chain-smoking Deng.

The full implications of that assurance may not immediately be felt in the current campaign against the communist insurgents. But if it succeeds in boosting the morale of our soldiers and eroding that of the communists—and we have no reason to believe this will not be the case—then the statement shall have served its purpose.

Ms Aquino also charmed China's leaders into committing themselves to a peaceful solution of the row over the Spratlys. China and Vietnam which, like the Philippines and Taiwan are claiming the islands, had a bloody clash last month and the Beijing government's pledge that the Filipino troops garrisoning several islands in the group will not be attacked is certainly welcome. With the communist and separatist insurgencies—let alone the rightist threats of coup leader Gregorio Honasan and company—bedeviling it, the administration can hardly afford another problem that would call for deployment of troops.

The assurance of China's leaders to increase trade and to correct the huge trade imbalance between the two countries will also go a long way toward stabilizing the Philippine economy.

If observations are correct that the almost avuncular attitude of Deng and the other Beijing leaders on the President may have stemmed from the knowledge that her ancestors are from China, then there is no reason to doubt the strength of the ties between the two countries. But ties, however strong, need constant caring to protect them from the corrosive effects of doubts and skepticism.

The President's visit did just that and more.

Welcome home Ma'am. You've done the country proud again.

Results of Visit Viewed

*HK181143 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
GLOBE in English 18 Apr 88 p 4*

[Editorial: "The President's Journey to China"]

[Text] The journey, however brief, had its moments. And it served an important purpose.

It wasn't quite what Press Secretary Teodoro Benigno promised us upon departure: "gripping drama" and "deathless prose." That's a tall order by any standard, and especially for an event laid out with clockwork precision and dominated by ceremony and diplomatic exchanges.

But the hyperbole aside, the visit of President Aquino to China has done the nation the eminent service of reestablishing contact and understanding with the People's Republic of China, after some recent missteps by the Philippine government. This is not so much because of written agreements and memoranda of understanding produced by her journey; there were in fact very few of these. It derives more from the very fact of the top leaders of our two nations meeting and talking in person. In just two days, Mrs Aquino met with all the top leaders of China, including Mr Deng Xiaoping himself.

As in the case of other countries, what was uppermost in the minds of China's leaders was the stability of Mrs Aquino's government and the incessant augury of conflict within the country. They minced the words in inquiring about these matters, but they asked. And Mrs Aquino replied with the vigor of a leader who has survived countless challenges to her government, and she was helped in Beijing by the news of the capture of some rebel soldiers involved in the escape of Honasan.

On a more positive note, the visit produced renewal of China's pledge not to aid the Communist insurgency in the Philippines. It seemed a little impolitic of Mrs Aquino to ask for "moral support" in fighting Communism from leaders whose faith and outlook are rooted in the way of Communism. Nonetheless, she got what she probably meant to ask for in the first place: a firm pledge not to intervene in Philippine affairs.

On balance, this was a fruitful diplomatic initiative of the government. It had to be made, despite the alarms of a possible coup attempt while she was away. And now, with President Aquino safely home, it certainly looks well-worth all the risk and the effort.

PRC Invites Philippine Senators To Visit

HK150745 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY

GLOBE in English 15 Apr 88 p 8

[Text] The People's Republic of China (PROC), through its embassy, has invited a number of senators to visit China in June, during which bilateral agreements may be taken up, said Senate President Jovito R. Salonga.

At the same time, he urged Government "not to forget" the "other China" by improving the country's "commercial relationship" with Taiwan. He added that "one should not be excluded from the other."

Sen Salonga said Government's strong diplomatic and economic relationship with PROC will likely benefit the country's efforts in pursuing its economic recovery program. He cited China's rapidly growing technology which Government may opt to adopt.

However, he discounted the possibility of the President renewing talks with Chinese officials regarding the disputed Spratly, or Kalayaan, Islands due to "the short span of time" for the whole trip. Recently, China, Malaysia, and Vietnam separately expressed their sovereign rights over the islands.

The Rizal salon added that the President will concentrate on developing the country's trade relations with China. For the three-day official visit, the President is scheduled to visit only two cities including Beijing, he said.

Sen Salonga noted that the Philippines' relationship with PROC "was long overdue." He recalled that he delivered a lecture in 1964 on "the need to have relationships" with China, and was "criticized for it." In 1980, he was jailed by former President Marcos after arriving from a visit to China. However, he said Imelda Marcos, who was then the country's "special ambassador" to China, signed a diplomatic accord with PROC.

Speaking on the eve of the chief executive's China trip, Sen Alberto G. Romulo, a member of the presidential entourage, said Government will seek "to widen" its trade agreement with PROC. He added that the Philippine panel will likely ask the inclusion of additional local items in China's approved imports.

Sen Romulo said the importation of oil from China will also be discussed with the participation of Manuel Estrella, president of the Philippine National Oil Co, who is with the President's party. However, he did not elaborate on the matter.

He said the Senate's participation in the PROC trip is to look for possible treaties or agreements that the Upper Chamber may want to forge with the Chinese Government. He added that a report on the trip will be submitted to the Senate to assist it in enacting laws concerning the country's foreign relations, particularly with PROC.

Alleged Coup Plotters' Trial Postponed

HK181349 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
1000 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] The trial of Lieutenant Colonel Eduardo Red Kapunan and four others was postponed after a military court granted their lawyer's request to set the hearing of their case for 9 May. This is Kapunan and his companion's first legal victory. Kapunan's companions include Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Nelson Eslam, Army Major Wilhelm Doromal, Army First Lieutenant Fernando Baltazaar, and Army First Lieutenant Gregorio Katapang. The men are facing charges of involvement in the 28 August abortive coup.

Preliminary investigations have recommended that Kapunan and company be charged with violation of Article of War 67, or sedition, as well as of Article of War 97, or conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.

Honasan Financial Supporters Said Identified
*HK181159 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER in English 18 Apr 88 pp 1,8*

[By Cesar M. Espino]

[Text] The military yesterday said it has identified certain politicians and businessmen "financing" Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan who had earlier threatened to launch another attempt to overthrow the government.

Col. Guillermo Ruiz, deputy commander of the National Capital Region Defense Command [NCRDC], said the NCRDC now has a list of the names of those giving "moral and financial" support to Honasan.

He did not name names but said they were "affluent citizens who have helped Gringo in the past." He said Honasan's supporters are being closely watched.

Ruiz is also deputy commander of the task force which captured eight of Honasan's 13 Navy guards in a raid on a house in Blue Ridge subdivision in Quezon City.

In another development, two other Metro Manila hide-outs used by Honasan and his guards right after their escape may yet lead authorities to the cashiered Army officer.

Soldiers are now closing in on the two houses used by Honasan and his guards, who split into three groups the night they escaped from the BRP Andres Bonifacio, Honasan's prison since his arrest last December.

Ruiz said the two houses were pinpointed by some of the captured Navy guards, who were initially brought to the two other houses.

Ruiz said clues are being put together by intelligence agents to determine Honasan's whereabouts.

Ruiz said the military is inclined to believe the stories of the captured guards that they never saw Honasan since the night of the escape. But he said the guards nonetheless provided "very significant" leads that are now being looked into by the authorities.

Replying to a question on how close they were in capturing Honasan, Ruiz said he hoped the task force would get the fugitive coup leader "soon enough."

Ruiz said there may only be four left of the Navy guards who may be in touch with Honasan. He said that when the soldiers of the NCRDC raided the house in Blue Ridge and captured eight of the guards, there were actually two more who went out that morning.

Ruiz said the two may have gone in hiding when they learned of the raid, and that they would not know how to get in touch with Honasan.

He identified them as Seaman 1st Class Jose Casiano and Seaman 2nd Class Arnulfo Barcelano.

Owner of Honasan's Men's Refuge To Be Charged
*BK181221 Manila PNA in English 1002 GMT
18 Apr 88*

[Excerpt] Manila April 18 (PNA/OANA)—The Philippine Government is studying the charges it will file against owners of a house where some of an escaped coup leader's security men were captured last Friday [15 April], President Corazon Aquino said Monday.

In her first news conference since returning from China Sunday, Aquino said "an inquest is going on" and expected the Justice Department to submit its findings this week.

The president did not identify the house owners, but the military earlier named one of them as Ildefonso "Butch" Canoy, nephew of Reuben Canoy, leader of a Christian separatist movement in southern Philippines.

The secessionist leader, an ally of Nur Misuari, the foreign-based head of the separatist Moro National Liberation Front, has dared the Aquino government to arrest him if it could prove his family aided the "great escape" April 2 of cashiered dismissed Army Colonel Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan.

"Butch" Canoy, reportedly now in the United States, is vice president for operations of Radio Mindanao Network, owner of radio station DZXL, the first and only broadcast station so far to have interviewed Honasan since his escape from his prison ship, "BRP Andres Bonifacio." [passage omitted]

'Major' Revamp at Foreign Department Reported
*HK151255 Quezon City MALAYA in English
15 Apr 88 pp 1, 7*

[Text] Former head of the Philippine mission to the United Nations Salvador P. Lopez and former Ambassador to Korea Nicanor Jimenez have rejoined the Department of Foreign Affairs [DFA] as special assistants to Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus.

The appointments of Lopez and Jimenez were part of an ongoing major DFA reorganization expected to be completed by April 22.

DFA sources said Assistant Secretary for Asia and Pacific Affairs Rodolfo Severino will be named Ambassador to China to replace Ambassador Alfonso Yuchengco who has expressed his wish to resign.

DFA sources, however, have declined to confirm Severino's nomination pending the acceptance of China.

Ambassador Rora N. Tolentino, assistant secretary for public affairs, has been appointed director general for Asia-Pacific affairs.

Executive Order 239 which mandates the reorganization of DFA provides the change of term from assistant secretary to director general as practiced in international diplomacy.

The positions of director general are for career officers, while those of assistant secretary are for political appointees.

Former Acting Foreign Affairs Minister Pacifico Castro has been appointed director general for Middle East and African affairs. Castro was the one who drafted the Tripoli Agreement.

Other new assignments are:

Special assistant, Office of Undersecretary Jose D. Ingles—Cesar Pastores; special assistant, Office of Undersecretary Manuel Yan—Clemencio Montesa; director general, Coordination—Hermenegildo B. Garcia; director general, Office of Personnel and Management Service—Pablo A. Araque; director general, Fiscal—Ernesto Garrido; director general, Consular—Mario C. Belisario; director general, ASEAN—Jaunito P. Yarasa; director general, United Nations Information Office—Jose Fernandez; director general, American Affairs—Leonides T. Caday; director general, European Affairs—Felipe Mabilangan Jr.; director general, Protocol—Romeo A. Arguelles; director general, Data Banking—Alicia C. Ramos;

Principal assistants, Office of Legal Adviser—Franklin Ebdalin and Maxie Aguillon; principal assistants, Protocol—Purismo de Peralta and Rafael Seguis; executive director, OPMS—Jorge Arizabal; executive director, Fiscal—Rolando Libas; executive director, Consular—Donato Felicio; executive director, ASEAN—Solita Aguirre; executive director, UNIO—Victor Garcia III; executive director, ASPAC—Rodrigo Aragon; executive director, Middle East—Samuel Ramel; executive director, American—Concepcion Delgado; acting executive director, European—Jose Guerrero; acting executive director, International Economic Affairs—Marcellana Desales; and acting executive director, Cultural Affairs and Public Information—Villamor Cardema.

Ex-Armed Forces Vice Chief Takes Defense Post
HK150739 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER in English 15 Apr 88 pp 1,8

[By Cesar M. Espino]

[Text] Retired Lt Gen Edtiardo Ermita, former Armed Forces vice chief of staff has been appointed as assistant defense secretary for munitions, an INQUIRER source said yesterday.

The source, who requested anonymity, said President Aquino signed the appointment last Saturday and will swear Ermita into office when she arrives from her China visit.

Ermita's new designation, however, will have to be reviewed and confirmed by the Commission on Appointments.

Ermita was among the 37 generals—all members of the Philippine Military Academy's Class of 1957—who retired April 1 after their tour of duty lapsed.

Ermita's appointment comes on the heels of the appointment of retired Maj Gen Cesar F. Tapia, former chief of the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Southern Command, as chief of the security and emergency services department of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

Another classmate of Ermita and Tapia, retired Rear Adm Tagumpay Jardiniano, is rumored to be the next postmaster general.

Ermita a veteran of the Vietnam War, played a key role in the drafting of the Tripoli agreement as a member of the Philippine panel in 1976.

He is also an expert on Mindanao affairs and has served with the defense department for many years as aide to former Defense Under secretary Carmelo Barbero during the earlier part of his military career.

Ermita was appointed AFP deputy chief of staff when Ms Aquino took power in February 1986. He became the vice chief of staff the following year, and retired with both positions he occupied concurrently.

Armed Forces Chief on Military Factionalism
HK150511 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
0400 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Text] Armed Forces Chief General Renato de Villa says members of the military are doing their duty, and that rumors that a third or a fourth of the military are allegedly supporting former Colonel Gregorio Honasan are mere hearsay. This statement was made by De Villa at a radio interview.

[Begin De Villa recording] All I can say is these are personal opinions and perceptions that are being bandied about. It is not possible for us to know. We are not counting those members of the Armed Forces allegedly for or against President Aquino. What I can say is that the Armed Forces are fulfilling their obligations, and this is something of which we can be sure. Now, if there are those who say that a third or a fourth or a half or whatever are against us, in my opinion all that is mere hearsay and personal opinions. [end recording]

NPA Recruitment Reportedly Dropping
HK150741 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER in English 15 Apr 88 p 10

[By Cesar Espino and Bert Basa]

[Text] The rate of recruitment by the New People's Army in Southern Tagalog has declined by 30 percent due to ideological squabbles within the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] and the government's anti-insurgency campaign.

Documents seized during a military raid on a rebel hideout in San Juan on March 29 showed that the number of NPA recruits has decreased since 1986, according to a press statement by the Armed Forces headquarters in Camp Aguinaldo.

The raid led to the capture of Rafael Baylosis, alleged CPP secretary general, Romulo Kinanar, overall NPA commander, Benjamin de Vera, a central committee member, Marco Palo, a liaison officer, and Ma. Gloria A. Jopson, CPP finance officer and Kintanar's wife.

Maj. Gen. Ramon A. Montano, Constabulary chief, said the decline in the number of NPA recruits were contained in a coded document entitled, "Notes on the Armed Struggle in Southern Tagalog in 1987."

The printout revealed that there were only 366 NPA recruits in 1987 as against 521 in 1986.

According to the press statement, the NPA in the region also lost 299 regulars who were either killed in battle or surrendered to the government.

The military is still in the process of evaluating coded material seized from the raids that led to the capture of the three top communist figures and five other ranking CPP-NPA officials, the statement said.

The captured communist leaders, however, said that the so-called documents allegedly seized from their rebel hideouts were fabricated by the military itself.

Meanwhile in San Fernando, Pampanga, two suspected NPA rebels killed a former "Sparrow unit" hitman in a shoot-out inside a passenger bus along the Gapan-Olongapo road in Barangay Sto. Nino here the other day.

Major Jose Gutierrez, deputy Pampanga PC commander, identified the victim as Jesus Bonque, 36, alias Ka Medy, of Barangay Cutcut, Angeles City. The gunmen escaped.

Bonque was arrested two months ago in Bataan for his participation in the ambush of former Angeles City Mayor Francisco Nepomuceno in May last year and in the slaying of three American servicemen five months later.

Since his arrest, he had allegedly helped the military in anti-insurgency operations.

Allegedly Losing Support
HK150749 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
GLOBE in English 15 Apr 88 pp 1, 6

[By David C. Borje]

[Text] Allacapan, Cagayan—Top local officials headed by Gov Rodolfo Aguinaldo and ranking military officers in Northern Luzon said yesterday insurgents in this province are losing mass support because of the massive saturation drives by government forces.

Aguinaldo, who assumed the governorship only last March 18 because of a pre-proclamation controversy that was finally resolved in his favor by the Commission on Elections last March 15, and Lt Col Peter Estadero, commander of the 17th Inf Bn., 5th Inf Div of the Philippine Army stationed here, briefed the Senate committee on national defense and security headed by Sen Ernesto M. Maceda on the peace and order situation.

Maceda, accompanied by Brig Generals Benjamin Fabric, of the Northern Command; Pedro Siatosa, of Regional Command 2; and Manuel Dizon, of the 5th Inf Div and other military officers also visited Conner in Kalinga-Apayao to hold talks with the officers and enlisted men of the 41st Inf Bn.

The civilian and military authorities explained, however, that while NPA activities in Cagayan have been neutralized by government forces, the people were still reluctant or afraid to talk, unless assured of government protection from the insurgents.

Estadero said his men need more radio communication sets to enable them to penetrate insurgency areas and fight more effectively in platoons or squads. he said repair of such sets took a long time.

Estadero also said his battalion with an authorized personnel of 600 has only 480, or short of 10 officers and 110 enlisted men.

In dialogues with the enlisted men, Maceda was also requested to work, through legislation, or appeal to the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] command, for the grant of more clothing, boots and other supplies.

The Impact 3 group entertained the soldiers with musical numbers and skits.

Several mayors also told Maceda their police station commanders were not cooperative. The defense committee chairman assured the mayors that Congress is expected to approve in four months a proposed law that will abolish the PC/INP merger and restore to the mayors power of supervision over the policemen in their jurisdictions.

Aguinaldo, a former PC provincial commander in Cagayan with the rank of lieutenant colonel said during his almost one month in office he had observed that laws were violated with impunity. "Illegal logging, illegal gambling and illegal awarding of contracts for public works projects are still rampant," he said.

Wearing only slippers and maong pants but exuding sincerity, Aguinaldo said crimes in the province are "syndicated" but has already pinpointed responsibility.

He said 50 percent of the funds for public works projects went to the pockets of certain local officials and government employees.

The governor said he has created a quality control group and monitoring group to check abuses in government. He added that criminal and administrative charges will be filed against erring officials and employees "very soon."

"I want to initiate reforms and improve the peace and order condition," Aguinaldo said. "We have enough laws but they are not being implemented."

He admitted former Lt Col Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan was a close friend. But he refused to answer if he would allow Honasan to seek refuge in Cagayan, who is still at large since his escape last April 2 from his prison ship, the BRP Andres Bonifacio with his 14 navy guards.

"I will act when that time comes," Aguinaldo said.

Rebel Hit Squad Claims Clark Killings
HK150751 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
GLOBE in English 15 Apr p 2

[Text] A communist publication identified yesterday a previously unknown assassination squad as having been responsible for killing three Americans and a Filipino civilian last year near Clark Air Base.

The claim was made in Rebolusyon [revolution] a newsletter of the rebel New People's Army in Central Luzon, where the base is located, the publication was received yesterday by news organizations.

Rebolusyon said the killings were carried out last October 28 by the Mariano Garcia Brigade, a branch of the NPA. The statement claimed five Americans were slain, although U.S. and Filipino authorities put the death toll at four.

Gunmen fired on an Air Force captain, but he escaped injury. Slain were U.S. Air Forces Sgt Randy Davis of Portland, Oregon, Airman 1st Class Steven Faust of Pasadena, California, retired T Sgt Herculano Mangata, a naturalized American, and Joseph Portar, a Filipino businessman of American descent.

"The first operation of the brigade was the assassination of five American troops in the vicinity of Clark Air Base last October 28, 1987," the publication said. It said the brigade later carried out successful assassinations of two Filipino majors, Jesus Samson and Angelino Simbulan, and a low-level government official, Ceferino Lumanlan.

A rightist assassination squad has since been organized, calling itself the Angelino Simbulan Brigade, in Pangasinana.

10 Rebels 'Presumed' Killed in Cotabato
HK150213 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company
in English 2300 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Ten NPA guerrillas were presumed killed, while an amazon was captured during a fierce fight Monday between government troops and communist rebels in Barangay Sibulan, General Santos City. Four army soldiers were also killed. First Army Brigade Commander Colonel Orlando Soriano said that air support from 2 helicopter gunships forced the rebels to withdraw to different directions, leaving their slain comrades behind. Civilian witnesses also reported that an undetermined number of rebels were wounded and carried away by their retreating comrades. The Army Rangers, led by 1st Lieutenant (Sapati Enadayan) recovered a 10-wheeler truck loaded with rice and a car loaded with several pounds of fish, both earlier hijacked by the rebels. Col Soriano told the PNA [PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY] that all the recovered items, including the truck and the car, were turned over Tuesday to the rightful owners. He identified the captured amazon as Linda Aco.

Two Killed in Davao Army-Rebel Clash
HK151031 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog
0700 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Text] One NPA rebel was killed and two others wounded in an encounter with the military 2 days ago. According to a RECOM [Regional Command] 7 report, the clash occurred at around 1115, when about 20 NPA terrorists attacked some members of an anti-communist group stationed at Barangay Kiyutay, Panabog, Davao Del Norte, who were resting at the time.

The NPAs, who were led by a certain Commander Conrado, lost one comrade identified as Tonton Gregorio while soldier Enrique Nillo was also killed. Two rebels were wounded in the incident. One carbine with a magazine containing five bullets and one Garand with a clip containing 27 bullets were recovered from the battle scene.

Elements of the Davao Del Norte Constabulary Command are continuing the search for the rebels.

Two Rebels Reported Killed in Antique
HK150525 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
0500 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Text] Two communist rebels were killed during an encounter with government troops in a remote Barangay in Antique, two days ago. Colonel Jovencio Gongora, Antique PC Commander, identified the victims as Ka [Comrade] Tibo and Ka Boy. They were killed at Sita San Miguel, Barangay Bulang, Hamtik town, by Constabulary patrols during the firefight that lasted for 30 minutes.

Island Command Replaces Task Force in Panay
HK150507 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
0300 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Text] The Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] is redeploying its field units in Panay in line with the plan to set up an Island Command on the island. Brigadier General Jesus Hermosa, chief of the Visayas Command based in Cebu, ordered the dismantling of Task Force Panay based in Camp Delgado in Iloilo City. Hermosa dispatched Colonel Raymundo (Jarque) as island commander in charge of operational control and direct supervision of the anti-insurgency campaign. The AFP Island Command will be based in Camp Hernandez in Dingle, Iloilo, where the AFP's Task Force 2d Brigade is also stationed.

Thailand

Message Sent to UN on Lao Border Conflict
BK160225 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
16 Apr 88 p 2

[Text] The Government has told the United Nations it is prepared to continue seeking a solution to the Thai-Lao border conflict but it is up to Vientiane to show good faith.

In a message to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila said Thailand had proposed the setting up of a Joint Border committee to verify and demarcate the border, and a Thai-Lao Cooperation Committee. ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi said the border panel would tackle any dispute on the basis of the Franco-Siamese Treaty of 1907 and relevant maps.

In the spirit of compromise, Thailand agreed to a Laotian counter-proposal that the joint boundary committee deal exclusively with Ban Romklao, he said, but Vientiane insisted on "singling out" a portion of the treaty and excluding relevant maps.

"During both rounds, Laos dismissed our constructive proposals without due regard for the progress and betterment of the relations," ACM Sitthi wrote.

"For whatever motive, Laos has chosen a polemic tactic to circumvent the issue.

"Laos also attempted at this stage of the political talks to prejudge the issue through its demand that Thailand accept what would be tantamount to an arbitrary revision of the existing legal boundary—a revision to be made on Laotian terms.

"Their selective approach to treaty interpretations manifestly contravenes generally accepted legal principles," the minister said.

'Text' of Message

BK161257 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English
1500 GMT 15 Apr 88

["Text" of Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila's 12 April note to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar "concerning the ongoing situation on the Thai-Lao border at Ban Romklao Village, Phitsanulok Province"]

[Text] Excellency, I would like to express my deep appreciation for your message dated 25 February 1988 as well as your support and encouragement for Thailand's efforts to find a peaceful solution to the Thai-Lao boundary problem. As an initial step, the Thai Government delegation met with the Laotian Government delegation between 3 and 4 March in Bangkok and 17 and 18 March 1988 in Vientiane.

Thailand's position is clear and determined to arrive at a durable settlement. To this end, we proposed the establishment of a joint boundary committee to survey, verify, and demarcate the Thai-Lao boundary beginning from such hot spots as Ban Romklao and moving on to other spots which may become susceptible to differences or conflicts between the two countries. We clearly insisted that [words indistinct] for our two countries to handle the matters existing or potential problems along their common boundary. In essence, what we have proposed to Laos is no different to the long-standing agreements which we have with Malaysia and Burma all these years. The tasks of this body would be to resolve any boundary dispute whenever and wherever it occurs so as to prevent it from developing into a threat to the peaceful relationship between our brotherly nations.

Of particular importance, this committee could undertake views and proper examinations of all legal and technical aspects pertaining to the questions of [word indistinct] and demarcation of boundary areas, in particular at Ban Romklao. (?Where) this particular incident is concerned, Thailand and Laos have agreed to abide by the 1907 Franco-Siamese treaty and relevant maps as a basis for the settlement of their difference. This agreed basis was especially to provide for the communication exchange between the two heads of governments on 24 and 25 February 1988.

In a spirit of compromise, we nonetheless accepted the Laotian counterproposal that the joint boundary committee be formed as an ad hoc body to deal exclusively with the current problem over the Ban Romklao area. But it is inconceivable to expect us to go along with the Laotian insistence of singling out only a portion of the 1907 treaty or excluding the relevant maps since this would constitute a blatant disregard of the basis of settlement as agreed upon by the heads of government.

Looking beyond the ongoing boundary problem, the Thai side also proposes that the Thai-Lao Cooperation Committee, which was set up in 1979 but has not met since 1984 [words indistinct] to promote bilateral cooperation into wide-ranging areas, such as trade, economics, technology, culture, tourism, and to deal with (?special) problems related to common border. This gesture was proper and an act of goodwill with a sincere desire to improve our bilateral relations with Laos and to foster an atmosphere conducive to future talks.

During both rounds of talks, Laos dismissed our constructive proposal without due regard for the progress and betterment of the relations. For whatever motives, Laos has chosen polemical tactics to circumvent this issue. Laos also attempted at this stage of political talks to prejudge the issue through its demand that Thailand accept what would be tantamount to an arbitrary revision of the existing legal boundary, a revision to be made on Laos' terms. Their resort to selective approach to treaty interpretations manifestly contravenes generally accepted legal principles. Furthermore, in trying to dismiss the relevant maps of the Franco-Siamese Delineation Commission, which [words indistinct] to France and which Laos herself has always recognized as legally binding, Laos has in effect [words indistinct]. For as recently as in 1984 Laos had asserted the validity of these maps before the world community by publishing a white book incorporating the maps of the Franco-Siamese Delineation Commission and having it circulated as a United States [as heard] official document during the 39th General Assembly.

Although we were disappointed with the Laotian stand during the talks in Vientiane, the Thai side would prefer [words indistinct] for a solution to the current problem with our position firmly based on legal grounds. It remains for the Laotian side to show and exercise its good faith to settle the Ban Romklao problem, which is a priority question for us.

May I [words indistinct] to Excellency once again that in our dealings with Laos on this matter, the Royal Thai Government would strive to bring about a peaceful and permanent solution of the problem in accordance with the principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter.

Ministry Denies Stalling Talks

BK150055 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
15 Apr 88 p 2

[Text] The Foreign Ministry yesterday denied accusations by Laotian Ambassador to France Thongsai Phonthisan that Thailand is stalling on border talks, and

retorted by saying that the diplomat did not know the facts.

"We think that the Laotian official does not know the issues and therefore should not comment and spoil the atmosphere we are trying to create," Foreign Ministry spokesman Sarot Chawanawirat said.

He was responding to statements on Tuesday by Mr Thongsai, who said Laotian Premier [as published] Phoun Sipaseut had sent a letter to Bangkok last week seeking a third round of talks on the border issue.

Mr Thongsai said in Paris that so far Vientiane had not yet received a reply, and accused Thailand of trying to "avoid the problem" in the first two rounds of talks.

"Thailand is not yet ready to negotiate with us" and Bangkok is "drawing things out", the envoy said.

Mr Sarot said Thai-Lao relations are already "fragile" and the ambassador's statements do not help improve ties.

The statements also show that "the ambassador does not know the facts", Mr Sarot said.

He said the Laotian envoy's remark that Mr Phoun had sent a letter last week was wrong.

Mr Sarot said the Laotian reply to Thai proposals to set up a Joint Border Committee and a Thai-Lao Joint Cooperation Committee was made by Deputy Foreign Minister Kamphai Bouppha.

That reply was sent while Laotian military chief Gen Sisavat Keobounphan was visiting Bangkok, he said.

"We have had no response from Premier Phoun," Mr Sarot said.

"I can't see how the ambassador can make such statements," he said, adding that Thailand had proposed that the entire border issue be tackled, while Laos only wanted to resolve the Ban Romklao dispute.

Thailand has not tried to delay the talks, the spokesman said, adding that the ministry has tried to negotiate to resolve the issue for the benefit of both sides.

"Laos should adhere to the principles outlined by the agreement of both premiers," to resolve the issue on the basis of the 1907 Franco-Siamese Treaty and relevant maps, he said.

Mr Sarot said there has been no progress in the talks simply because Laos chooses to focus on a narrow interpretation of Clause II of the treaty.

The ambassador's statements show that Vientiane has "ulterior motives" in allowing such remarks to be made, Mr Sarot said.

He urged that the Thai people watch Laotian behaviour because it will illustrate Vientiane's sincerity in trying to solve the border dispute.

Mr Sarot predicted that Laos would embark on a propaganda campaign in the international arena over the Ban Romklao issue.

Laos, he added, does not want to resolve the border issue, but instead wants to tie it to other issues.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila yesterday said the Thai ambassador to Laos, Niran Phanuphong, would be called to Bangkok to brief the ministry on the latest developments in Vientiane.

"The problem rests with Laos," he said, adding that the issue could be solved if propaganda is avoided.

Lao Soldier Killed at Border

BK180151 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
18 Apr 88 p 1

[Text] Loei—One Laotian soldier was killed and another wounded in a clash with Thai troops at the border village in Chiang Khan district on Saturday [16 April] in the first such incident since the February ceasefire.

The shooting, the first since the ceasefire in the Ban Romklao fighting some two months ago, took place as Laos proposed reactivating the joint Thai-Lao Cooperation Committee to tackle overall problems between the two countries.

Informed military sources said the shooting erupted when Laotian soldiers arrested a Thai warrant officer during a Songkran celebration by Thais and Laotians in the Hueng River which demarcates Ban Bueng Khla of Laos and Thailand's Ban Nachan.

Laotian troops arrested Warrant Officer Thongsri Panya, who was among the celebrants, said the sources, who added that the three rangers, Prachop Wiangdinkham, Sao Liapchanle and Masao, were nearly arrested when they followed their officer to Ban Bueng Khla on the Laotian side to seek his release.

The three rangers escaped, however, and Laotian troops who pursued the trio engaged in a firefight with a Thai ranger unit.

A Laotian soldier, identified as Sub-Lt Khaophon, was killed, the sources said.

Lt Rabiang Soikit, commander of the ranger unit posted in Ban Nachan, said all of some ten Laotian civilian families were evacuated from Ban Bueng Khla after the shooting, and more troops, four armoured cars and artillery were moved in.

He described the border situation as tense.

The captured officer, it was reported, was taken to a Laotian forward headquarters in Ken Thao, Sayaboury.

Informed military sources said that two Thai villagers, Worachet Sukkhang and Sakhon Sonphrom, who were abducted from Ban Nachan by Laotian troops on Saturday, were drugged when they were released yesterday.

The duo were treated by army medics and being detained for debriefing by army officers, the sources added.

Ambassador Niran Phanupong said yesterday that Laotian army commander Gen Sisavat Keobounphan had proposed reviving the Joint Thai-Lao Cooperation Committee to tackle overall problems, including border issues.

Gen Sisavat wants Thai and Laotian delegations to resume talks to settle the border dispute, said Mr Niran, insisting that Laos wants Clause II of the Franco-Siam Treaty of 1907 be discussed.

Laos says Clause II states that the Hueng river marks the border in the Ban Romklao area, but Thailand contends the frontier is marked by the Hueng Nga river and that the entire treaty and related maps must be considered, not just a portion.

The envoys said Gen Sisavat said Thai and Laotian troops at Ban Romklao had begun to feel nervous because of the lack of progress in peace talks.

Gen Sisavat wanted a third round of talks quickly and an agreement inked.

Gen Sisavat's proposal would see the revival of the cooperation committee, established in 1978 by prime minister Kriangsak Chamanan and Laotian Premier Khammoue Phomvihan but became inactive when Gen Kriangsak left the premiership.

A source said Gen Sisavat's proposal did not constitute a significant shift from Vientiane's original stance.

Prem 'Not Worried' by Censure Motion
BK160159 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
16 Apr 88 pp 1, 3

[Text] Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon said yesterday his administration is ready for the censure motion, and his secretary-general, Prasong Sunsiri, said the debate would not be stalled by a dissolution of Parliament.

Speaking after Opposition leaders handed the motion to House Speaker Chuan Likpai at Parliament, an apparently calm Gen Prem said he would discuss tactics with coalition leaders on Monday.

Gen Prem said he had seen the motion, which calls for a debate on broad aspects of his administration's performance.

"There shouldn't be any problem," he said. "I'm not worried."

The Prime Minister dismissed reports of eleventh-hour efforts by a group close to him to spike the Opposition's guns. Gen Prem said with a smile:

"The Government has never embarked on such action. Reports in the press suggesting heavy lobbying could be the result of the papers' own confusion."

PM's Office Minister Michai Ruchuphan showed Gen Prem the motion filed and was ordered to prepare information to counter the Opposition's charges.

Mr Michai said Gen Prem was prepared in case the Opposition did not go by the book.

"But so far, he hasn't requested formal consultations on the problem" Mr Michai said.

Sqn Ldr Prasong said Gen Prem would not dissolve the House before the debate because such action could not be justified.

"When the Opposition exercises its rights under democratic principles, the administration has the right to explain," he said, declining to predict the outcome if people did not play by the rules.

If the motion was in order, the debate was likely to take place before Gen Prem goes abroad on May 16, he said.

The motion, carrying the signatures of 85 Opposition MPs, was submitted to Parliament with one copy going to Speaker Chuan and another to parliament officials.

Leading the Opposition in giving the motion to Mr Chuan were Prachakon Thai leader Samak Sunthawet, Muan Chon leader Chaloeun Yubamrung, Progressive leader Uthai Phimchaichon, Community Action leader Bunchu Rotchanasathian, Ruam Thai Secretary-General Piyarat Watcharaphon and United Democratic MP Opas Phonlasin.

Mr Chuan said the motion would be put on the agenda within two weeks once Parliamentary officials have inspected the document and accompanying signatures.

The Government would be consulted about the timing of the debate, which would be scheduled for the convenience of all parties, Mr Chuan said.

Mr Samak said the Opposition initially intended to forward 70 MP's signatures—the required one-fifth of the number of seats in the House.

"But many felt that if we submitted the minimum required, it would be too close and too much of a challenge.

"So we decided to go for 85. If anyone wanted to kill the motion, they'd have to lobby at least 16 MP's to withdraw their signatures," Mr Samak said.

The Bangkok MP lamented attempts by certain group to lobby Opposition MP's to abort the motion.

"This is a very pitiful thing to be done by senior government officials. I don't understand why these senior officials, some responsible in organising national elections, have involved themselves," he said.

"I don't understand why a senior Army commander has travelled from as far as Kanchanaburi to join the lobbying. I really don't know what to say," said Mr Samak.

The Opposition planned to grill Gen Prem over the mishandling of various affairs, in particular his alleged approval of a payment of 500 million baht in state funds to compensate a private firm for the 1985 devaluation of the baht, said Mr Samak.

The decision could only be made by the Cabinet, said Mr Samak, but Gen Prem took it upon himself to pay the company despite the fact that hundreds had requested similar treatment.

"The Prime Minister had better prepare documents well because he will have to explain that to Parliament. This is not a personal affair and the Prime Minister cannot use state funds in this way," Mr Samak said.

Pol Capt [Police Captain] Chaloeun said the Opposition had no intention to overthrow the Government in seeking the debate against it.

Progressive leader Uthai said the Opposition had sought a general debate because the Government had made so many claims about its performance in running the country.

"This will be a chance for the Government to know what it has done right and what it has done wrong," said Mr Uthai.

"The motion is a trivial matter in a democratic system. The people who are trying to make things difficult by lobbying MP's are destroying democracy," he said.

"This is not war. The motion is normal in a democracy."

However, he said the target of the debate had come to power by bypassing the democratic process, "and that's why he's afraid of being criticised in Parliament."

Ruam Thai MP Piyanat said:

"The motion will give the Government a chance to look at itself and correct what is wrong in the interests of the people."

Democrat MP Samphan Paenphat said he was glad the motion had made it to Parliament but he doubted it could bring the administration down.

The Nakhon Si Thammarart MP said he was unhappy about the reports of attempts by certain groups, including government officials, to block the motion before the debate.

"I don't know how the Prime Minister feels about this, but I feel strongly that these lackeys should stop what they are doing now and let the Opposition do its job", he said.

The Government must be open-minded enough to let Opposition have a say in Parliament.

"In the past, several good bills have been aborted only because they were sponsored by the Opposition. Let's not use parliamentary channels to destroy each other, or Parliament will be useless," said Mr Samphan.

Debate Set for 9 May

BK170420 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
17 Apr 88 pp 1, 3

[Text] Hearings for the Opposition's no-confidence motion have been tentatively scheduled for May 9, just prior to Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon's trip to the Soviet Union, senior government sources said yesterday.

The sources said all ministers concerned are preparing themselves and will be ready to answer opposition charges.

They said the Government has already sent all ministers copies of the censure motion.

The ministers are to meet tomorrow to discuss the matter and exchange ideas on how to best respond to the Opposition's charges.

The Government is especially concerned about a particular section of the motion that reads:

"This government also has other behaviour that indicates a lack of capabilities."

The sources said it is felt this wording could have broad interpretation and allow the Opposition a lot of room to manoeuvre in its attack.

The Government must therefore be well prepared for any point that could be raised in the censure, the sources said.

"Every minister will have to look after his own weak points," one source said.

Monday, May 9, has been proposed as the best time for the debate because all government ministers will be in the country.

Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila, who is targeted for his handling of the Ban Romklao incident, leaves for the United States this morning to attend a dinner arranged by the Thai Embassy and the Rockefeller Foundation in New York to raise funds for Thai medical students doing research on tropical diseases.

The dinner is to be held next Wednesday to celebrate His Majesty the King's 60th birthday. Her Royal Highness Princess Chulaphon will preside over the function.

After attending the dinner, ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi is scheduled to meet with US President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz before leaving for Dusseldorf, West Germany, to attend an ASEAN-European Community foreign ministers meeting.

He is to return to Bangkok on May 5.

Gen Prem is scheduled to leave for Moscow on the 16th of next month and will also visit Finland and Hungary during his two weeks abroad.

He was originally scheduled to continue on to the United States, but the trip has been cancelled.

Voting on the censure motion could take place on May 10.

The motion cannot be scheduled for the Wednesday of that week because May 11 is Phuet Mongkhon Day, an official holiday.

Meanwhile, Chat Thai MP for Suphan Buri Bun-ua Prasert Suwan, a government whip and member of the coalition coordination committee, said he and his colleagues are ready to counter any opposition moves against Gen Prem's character.

He said the House Speaker is also empowered to stop any "irrelevant personal attacks".

Other than coordination committee members, government parties also have 12 other well-seasoned whips to counter any unexpected opposition tactics during the debate.

Mr Bun-ua said the Government is confident it can weather the debate without any problems.

"The Prime Minister is very proud that there will be a censure debate because the Government's work is progressing well, especially the economy, which is in the best shape it's ever been in," he said.

"The price of rice is at 4,000 baht a ton and farmers say it's a golden year for them."

A military source said it appears too late for any attempt to sink the Opposition's motion because the Government did not move early enough.

The source alleged the Opposition paid 100,000 baht to each of the 19 United Democratic Party (UDP) MPs who signed the motion—a charge which Prachakon Thai Party leader Samak Suntharwet vehemently denied.

The source also claimed that UDP MP for Buriram Chai Chidchop, who pulled out of last year's motion at the last minute, approached the Prime Minister to inform him of the latest opposition moves.

However, PM secretary-general Prasong Sunsiri turned him away and the Government was therefore unable to act in time to prevent the censure motion from being filed, the source said.

Asked if money would be paid out to entice MPs to withdraw from the motion, the source, who was involved in last year's lobbying, said the military did not do anything until last Thursday, when former Prime Minister's aide Maj-Gen Mongkhon Amphonphisit attempted to convince MPs to withdraw.

"But it was too late. This year some political party may use some money, but I think it would be only to get the MPs not to attack the Prime Minister too fiercely.

"I don't think MPs could be bought off to withdraw from the motion this time because they are afraid of being ostracised," the source said.

Mr Somsak, meanwhile, said he would not allow any amendments to the motion, and if attempted he said he would "make the Government ashamed of the act".

UDP party founder Col Phon Roengprasertwit has said he would try to amend the censure, citing House regulation number 46 allowing amendments to motions if a majority of those at the meeting approve it.

He reportedly wants to change the motion so that it concerns individual ministers rather than the entire Cabinet and the Prime Minister.

Mr Somsak said this could not be done because the motion was signed by 85 MPs and would need the approval of at least 70 for amendment.

"I don't think this would happen, and even if somehow the government used a majority to reinterpret the Constitution and allow it, we will not give up.

"We will resubmit another motion against the whole Cabinet," he said.

Mr Somsak said that if an amendment was made, "the shame would fall not on the Opposition but on Parliament, particularly government parties in the House that allow such a move".

Prem Advisers Comment

BK170426 Bangkok THE NATION in English
17 Apr 88 p 1

[Text] Premier Prem Tinsulanon has less to lose if he decides to face the censure debate than if he tries to derail the motion through lobbying, Prem's chief adviser Chan Manutham said.

"The prime minister should have nothing to worry about since he has done nothing wrong. Besides, the Opposition's move is in accordance with the Constitution," Chan said.

Another Prem aide, Dr Sukhum Nuansakun, said the censure will also serve as a forum for Gen Prem to clarify doubts about the government's performance.

"The premier will suffer the most if the censure debate is derailed by government lobbyists because that would confirm the belief that Premier Prem is untouchable," Sukhum said.

The government was harshly criticized after a censure bid was aborted last April when 15 MPs who had endorsed the motion backed down in the last minute, Sukhum said.

An aide to the prime minister who requested anonymity said all of Prem's advisers, most of them academics from various universities, have recommended that Prem face the opposition challenge this time.

A source close to the premier said if Prem agrees to face the censure, he will suggest that Prem elaborate on overall government performance while ministers comment on more specific issues raised by the Opposition.

"In so doing, the prime minister will be shielded against criticism from the Opposition," the source said.

Prachakon Thai leader Samak Suntharawet said it is "impossible" for MPs other than those who endorsed the censure motion to call for a House vote to change the motion to censure individual Cabinet members.

"Even if they are successful in bending parliamentary regulations in their favour, we will easily resubmit the censure motion," Samak said.

But Samak said it would be a shameful act for the government to play with the rules since the government has invariably told the public it is ready to face the grilling.

Democrat MP Soemsak Karun (Rayong) said he will urge the government whips, who will meet to devise counter measures against the Opposition tomorrow, to recommend that Prem stand up to the censure.

"People will lose respect for Prem and call him a coward if he does not face the censure this time," Soemsak said.

MP Suphasit Techatanon (United Democratic/Khon Kaen) admitted that he did not sign the censure motion for fear that Prem would dissolve the House to avoid being grilled.

"I believe many MPs decided to stay out of the motion for the same reason. No one wants to waste money on election campaigns too often," he said.

Meanwhile, Decho Sawananon, a prominent member of the Democrat dissident Group of Jan 10, said his group objects to any attempt to block the censure motion. But, being on the government side, the group will comply with a party resolution on the matter.

"We consider the censure a correct move by the Opposition. The Constitution allows it. But I'm not sure to what extent the premier can stand the opposition criticism," Decho said.

Vietnam

U.S. Delegation Holds Talks on Amerasians
*BK161543 Hanoi VNA in English 1514 GMT
16 Apr 88*

[Text] Hanoi, VNA April 16—Vietnamese and U.S. specialists held their third meeting here from April 13-15 to continue settling the question of Amerasians in Vietnam. The Vietnamese side reaffirmed its consistent policy that the question of Amerasians is a humanitarian issue which should be settled as soon as possible. It also expressed readiness to issue exit visas to all Amerasians and their relatives to go to the United States.

The two sides discussed necessary measures to speed up the settlement of the issue in the coming period.

Leaves After Talks
*BK160944 Hong Kong AFP in English 0925 GMT
16 Apr 88*

[Text] Hanoi, April 16 (AFP)—A U.S. delegation left here Saturday after holding two days of talks with Vietnamese officials about Amerasians, the children of American fathers and Vietnamese mothers, an official Vietnamese source said.

The source said that the technical talks were held in the Vietnamese capital on Thursday and Friday.

The three-member U.S. delegation, which left Hanoi for Bangkok, was led by Bruce Beardsley of the Orderly Departure Program (ODP), the source said.

During his stay here, Mr. Beardsley met Nguyen Can, deputy director of the North America Department of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry, for what the source described as a "routine meeting."

Hanoi and Washington agreed in January on a plan to help the some 30,000 Amerasians and their relatives leave the country over a 24-month period starting from March 1988.

According to U.S. statistics, more than 3,500 Amerasians emigrated to the United States between 1979 and 1986.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said on April 7 that Vietnam was ready to settle the problem over two years, and added that a U.S. delegation could stay for two weeks in Ho Chi Minh City every month to interview candidates before their departure.

Signing of Geneva Accords on Afghanistan Noted
*BK181006 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1100 GMT 17 Apr 88*

[From the Sunday feature: "Review of Outstanding Current International Affairs in the Week"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Another event in the past week has also attracted worldwide attention: the signing of the documents on a political solution to the situation around Afghanistan.

On 14 April, at the Palace of Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, a ceremony was held in the presence of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and his special envoy, Mr Cordovez, for the signing of the Geneva documents on a solution to the situation in Afghanistan. Abdul Wakil, foreign minister of the Republic of Afghanistan, and Zain Noorani, minister of state for foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, signed the agreement on the principles of mutual relations, especially those on noninterference and renouncement of intervention; the agreement on voluntary repatriation of refugees; and the agreement on reciprocal measures in solving the situation relating to Afghanistan. Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State Shultz signed a statement on international guarantees and the agreement on reciprocal measures in solving the situation relating to Afghanistan.

Thus, the indirect talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan in Geneva have concluded. Broad sections of public opinion welcome the accords they reached and appreciate the constructive attitude of Afghanistan, which took

the first step in setting the process in motion. However, public opinion is also deeply concerned by the continued collusion between the United States and Pakistan in opposing the Afghan revolution.

THE NEW YORK TIMES has reported that the Pakistani administration recently made a secret pledge to the United States that it is ready to step up arms deliveries to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries to enable them to continue their acts of sabotage against the Afghan revolution, even after Afghanistan and Pakistan have signed a peace treaty at their indirect talks in Geneva. The paper also said that the Reagan administration recently supplied the Pakistani Army with weapons worth \$300 million for delivery to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries. In a recent issue, the U.S. paper THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR also revealed that Washington is providing the Afghan counterrevolutionaries with weapons and ammunition worth hundreds of millions of dollars to help them build up reserves for the coming months. The paper pointed out these weapons are equipped with modern devices never before given to the rebels. Meanwhile, the U.S. daily THE WASHINGTON POST has disclosed that last February the Afghan counterrevolutionaries received heavy weapons and new types of antitank guns. The United States has also given them 350 Stinger surface-to-air missiles through the intermediary of Pakistan. At a White House meeting of U.S. rightwingers' representatives, President Reagan has openly declared that the United States will continue its arms deliveries to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries. [passage omitted]

Daily Condemns PRC Researchers in Spratlys
BK170748 Hanoi VNA in English 0725 GMT
17 Apr 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 17—The daily NHAN DAN today strongly condemns the sending by China of a so-called "oceanographic research team" to a vast sea area encompassing the Spratly (Truong Sa) and waters [as received] just off Vietnam's coast, saying that this new act of China seriously threatens peace and stability of Southeast Asia. The paper recalls that not long ago China tried to make the world believe that Vietnam had started the Truong Sa conflict by "sending its warships to Chinese waters where Chinese scientists had installed a station to carry out a research work assigned by UNESCO."

Public opinion can easily see that the presence of dozens of Chinese warships, including destroyers and submarines in the Eastern Sea has nothing to do with "scientific research." Instead people can only detect here a pretext for China to send more forces to this sea area in its move toward occupying by force Vietnam's territories in the Truong Sa Archipelago.

"World public opinion is demanding that the Chinese side meet Vietnam's goodwill for the settlement of disputes by peaceful negotiations, not by force, and preventing the situation from deteriorating," the paper concludes.

India's Gandhi, Nguyen Van Linh Hold Talks

Talks Said Centered on Cambodia
BK160854 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 16 Apr 88

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and the general secretary of the Vietnamese Communist Party, Mr Nguyen Van Linh, held talks in Ho Chi Minh City today. AIR correspondent understands that efforts to resolve the Kampuchean problem was the main issue discussed. On his arrival at the airport, Mr Gandhi was given a warm and affectionate welcome. He was received by the Vietnamese Communist Party leader and his colleagues. Thousands of school children lined the route from the airport to the guest house where he is staying for the day.

Countries' Similarities Noted
BK161621 Hanoi VNA in English 1525 GMT
16 Apr 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 16—Prime Minister of the Republic of India and Mrs Rajiv Gandhi arrived in Ho Chi Minh City on April 16 for a friendship visit to Vietnam.

The distinguished Indian guests were warmly welcomed by General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Nguyen Van Linh and his wife; Nguyen Co Thach, Political Bureau member of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs; Vo Tran Chi, secretary of the Ho Chi Minh City Party Committee; Phan Van Khai, chairman of the Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee, and large numbers of the local population.

The Indian Ambassador was present at the welcoming ceremony.

This afternoon, General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh held talks with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi at Tyen Thong Nhat (Reunification) Hall. The talks were attended by Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach on the Vietnamese side and Minister for Foreign Affairs K. Natwar Singh on the Indian side.

The two sides informed each other of important issues in the cause of national construction and defence of their respective countries, and exchanged views on major regional and international issues of mutual concern. The talks took place in a spirit of fraternity and mutual trust, motivated by the interests of world peace and bilateral cooperation.

The two sides expressed satisfaction at the new progress made in the cause of peace and disarmament in the world.

They unanimously held that disputes between countries should be solved expeditiously through peaceful negotiations in the spirit of mutual understanding, friendship and cooperation, without resorting to force and worsening the situation, and in line with the goals of the Nonaligned Movement and the Charter of the United Nations. General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh valued highly India's great contributions to the Nonaligned Movement and to peace, stability and cooperation in Asia and the world as a whole. He reiterated the government and people of Vietnam's full support for the just stance and goodwill of India in defending her independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and for her efforts aimed at improving her relations with neighbouring countries, strengthening peace and cooperation in South Asia and Asia as a whole, and making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace.

The two sides noted with satisfaction the fine development of the friendly relations and multi-form and long-term cooperation between Vietnam and India, especially in the fields of oil and natural gas exploitation and science and technology.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi expressed his great interest in and full support for Vietnam's efforts to overcome difficulties in national construction and the defence of her independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

On behalf of the Communist Party of Vietnam and Vietnamese Government and people, General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh expressed his sincere gratitude to the fraternal Indian people and the Government of the Republic of India headed by His Excellency Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi for their valuable and timely support and assistance to the Vietnamese people in national construction and the defence of independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi renewed his invitation to General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh to visit India. General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh accepted the invitation with sincere thanks. The date of the visit will be arranged through the diplomatic channel.

In the evening, General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh gave a banquet in honour of Prime Minister and Mrs. Rajiv Gandhi and the Indian delegation. Toasting to the health of Prime Minister and Mrs. Gandhi, General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh said that in these days of great significance, the presence of the Indian Prime Minister in the city bearing the name of President Ho Chi Minh who together with the late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, had laid the groundwork for and painstakingly captivated the great friendship between the Vietnamese and Indian peoples, was a noble gesture and a vivid manifestation of the solidarity and mutual support which has always bound the two people in a common struggle.

In his reply Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said that India and Vietnam had many things in common, especially their tradition of struggle and their readiness to make sacrifices for the national independence. The friendship and close relations between the two countries founded by President Ho Chi Minh and Jawaharlal Nehru would only grow better, he said.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi thanked General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh and the population of Ho Chi Minh City for their warm hospitality toward him and his entourage. He affirmed that it was a great honour for him to be in Ho Chi Minh City which, he said, was a heroic city credited with many events of great significance. He also expressed his conviction that the friendship and multi-form cooperation between India and Vietnam would constantly develop.

After the banquet, the Indian guests were entertained with a special cultural programme given by the artists of Ho Chi Minh City.

At 22:00 hours the same day, Indian Prime Minister and Mrs. Rajiv Gandhi and other distinguished Indian guests left Ho Chi Minh City for home. They were seen off at the airport by General Secretary and Mrs. Nguyen Van Linh, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, Vo Tran Chi, Phan Van Khai and other officials of Ho Chi Minh City.

Earlier, while Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh were having talks, Mrs. Sonia Gandhi visited the Nha Rong Port, the main port of Ho Chi Minh City where in 1911, the late President Ho Chi Minh set out in search of the way to free the Vietnamese people from colonial bondage. Accompanied by Mrs. Nguyen Van Linh, she also visited a number of cultural and handicraft establishments in Ho Chi Minh City.

Further on Talks

BK161558 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 16 Apr 88

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and the general secretary of the Vietnamese Communist Party, Mr Nguyen Van Linh, discussed in Ho Chi Minh City today the program to reconstruct Vietnam's war ravaged economy. The talks lasted more than 4 hours. It covered the entire gamut of bilateral relations and several regional issues.

The AIR special correspondent, Manohar Takroo, reports from Ho Chi Minh City that Mr Rajiv Gandhi showed keen interest in the steps taken by Vietnam to rebuild its economy. Mr Linh explained the action taken by the Vietnamese Government so far and its plans for the future. Vietnam has been a victim of war for a long time, first with the French and later by the conflict with the United States.

While hearing from the Vietnamese leader about people's efforts to rebuild their country, Mr Gandhi remarked that political liberation is easier than economic liberation because it takes a longer time. Mr Gandhi enquired about the steps by Vietnam in the areas subjected to defoliation by the American bombing. Mr Linh told Mr Gandhi that Vietnam has been taking necessary measures to overcome these problems.

Our correspondent reports that a major part of the discussion was devoted to regional problems, especially the Kampuchean issue. The minister of state for external affairs, Mr Natwar Singh, was present at the talks between the two leaders. Mr Linh was assisted by the Vietnam's deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Nguyen Co Thach.

Daily Halls Development of Relations With India
BK171608 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 16 Apr 88

["Report" on NHAN DAN 17 April editorial: "New Manifestation of the Fine Development of Vietnam-India Relations."]

[Text] The visit to Vietnam by Indian Prime Minister and Mrs Rajiv Gandhi is great news for the Vietnamese people. Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh, many high-ranking party and state leaders, and the Vietnamese people warmly welcomed the distinguished guests from India. Various talks and meetings were held in an atmosphere of fraternity and mutual trust in the interest of world peace and cooperation between the two countries.

Vietnamese and Indian leaders exchanged ideas and expressed their similarity of views on development of the two countries' relations and on regional and international issues of mutual concern.

The Vietnamese people note with much enthusiasm that the Vietnamese-Indian long-standing friendship grows increasingly solid and close with the passing of time. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has affirmed that India has always been side-by-side with Vietnam in all struggles as well as in its present national construction. During the past years, the two countries have cooperated effectively in the fields of agriculture, animal husbandry, oil and gas exploration, textile industry, science and technology, and so forth. The O Mon Rice Varieties Research Institute, the herd of Murrah buffalo, the Indira Gandhi Textile Factory, the oil and gas cooperation treaty, and low-interest loans and urgent aid provided by the Indian Government to the Vietnamese people are all concrete and dynamic manifestations of the increasing cooperation between Vietnam and India.

Various visits to India by high-ranking Vietnamese leaders and to Vietnam by Indian leaders have created and are creating a new driving force for relations between the two countries.

The Vietnamese people note with pleasure the effective cooperation with the great Indian nation and are deeply moved by the Indian people's noble hearts in providing Vietnam with profound sympathy and sincere assistance.

We warmly welcome the successful visit to Vietnam by the Indian Prime Minister and Mrs Rajiv Gandhi which has marked a further step in the fine friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and India. We express our profound appreciation to the great Indian nation for its sentiment of solidarity and close friendship toward Vietnam, and our sincere gratitude to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and the Indian people for their valuable and prompt assistance.

On this occasion, the Vietnamese people once again reaffirm their full support for India's just stance and goodwill in the defense of her independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, and for her efforts to improve relations with neighboring countries, restore peace and cooperation in South Asia and Asia, and to turn the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace.

We pledge that we will, together with the fraternal Indian people, do our best to make the Vietnamese-Indian friendship tree ever green in the interest of the two nations and for peace, security, and cooperation in Asia, the Pacific, and the rest of the world.

Vo Van Kiet Receives Romanian Ambassador
BK161559 Hanoi VNA in English 1505 GMT
16 Apr 88

[Text] Hanoi, VNA April 16—Acting Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet received here today Dumitru Gheorghe, Romanian ambassador to Vietnam.

Vo Van Kiet had a cordial talk with the Romanian diplomat.

Romania's Ceausescu, Delegation Arrive in Hanoi
BK170124 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 16 Apr 88

[Text] Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party [RCP] and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, and Comrade Elena Ceausescu arrived in Hanoi today [17 April] for an official friendship visit to our country.

They are accompanied by Comrades Stefan Andrei, deputy prime minister; Silviu Curticeanu, member of the State Council and secretary of the RCP Central Committee; Ioan Totu, minister of foreign affairs; Gheorghe Badita, deputy minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation; and Dumitru Gheorghe, Romanian ambassador to Vietnam.

Leaders Welcome Delegation

BK171225 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1100 GMT 17 Apr 88

[Text] Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party [RCP] and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, and Comrade Elena Ceausescu arrived in Hanoi this afternoon, 17 April, for an official friendship visit to Vietnam. They are accompanied by Comrades Stefan Andrei, deputy prime minister of the Socialist Republic of Romania; Silviu Curticeanu, member of the State Council and secretary of the RCP Central Committee; Ioan Totu, minister of foreign affairs; Gheorghe Badita, deputy minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation; and Dumitru Gheorghe, Romanian ambassador to Vietnam.

On hand to welcome Comrades Nicolae and Elena Ceausescu and their entourage at the Hanoi International Airport were Comrades Nguyen Duc Tam, member of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau; Nguyen Thi Binh, chairman of National Assembly Foreign Relations Committee; Nguyen Dy Nien, vice foreign minister; and Nguyen Trong Lieu, Vietnamese ambassador to Romania.

An official welcoming ceremony was held at the Chi Linh Square. Welcoming Comrades Nicolae and Elena Ceausescu and their entourage at the ceremony were comrades Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee; Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the Council of State; Vo Van Kiet, acting chairman of the Council of Ministers; Nguyen Co Thach, minister of foreign affairs; Nguyen Khanh, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; and Dinh Nho Liem, first vice foreign minister.

Hanoi Radio Views Arrival

BK180545 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 17 Apr 88

[Summary] "This afternoon, 17 April, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party [RCP] and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, and Mrs Elena Ceausescu arrived in Hanoi on an official friendship visit to Vietnam. They are accompanied by Comrades Stefan Andrei, deputy prime minister of the Socialist Republic of Romania; Silviu Curticeanu, member of the State Council and secretary of the RCP Central Committee; Ioan Totu, minister of foreign affairs; Gheorghe Badita, deputy minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation; and Dumitru Gheorghe, Romanian ambassador to Vietnam.

"On hand to welcome Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu and Mrs Elena Ceausescu and their entourage at the Noi Bai International Airport were Comrades Nguyen Duc Tam, member of the Party Central Committee Political Bureau; Nguyen Thi Binh, chairman of the National

Assembly's Foreign Relations Committee; Nguyen Duy Nien, vice foreign minister; and Nguyen Trong Lieu, Vietnamese ambassador to Romania.

"A large, official welcoming ceremony was held at the Chi Linh square. Attending this grand ceremony were Comrades Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee; Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the Council of State; Vo Van Kiet, acting chairman of the Council of Ministers; Nguyen Co Thach, minister of foreign affairs; Hoang Bich Son, head of the Party Central Committee's Foreign Relations Committee; Tran Tan, chairman of the Hanoi Municipal People's Committee; and many leading comrades of our party and state representing various public organs and sectors at the central level and in Hanoi, and a large number of representatives of the people in the capital."

At 1710 sharp, the motorcade of the Romanian guests arrived at the Chi Linh Square amid the imposing military music and the warm applause of the flag-waving representatives of Hanoi people.

Comrades Nguyen Van Linh and Vo Chi Cong took turns hugging Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu and Mrs Elena Ceausescu. The Ceausescus were then presented with bouquets of flowers by children from the capital.

"Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh showed Comrades Nicolae Ceausescu and Mrs Elena Ceausescu to their seats of honor on the red carpet at the center of the square."

After the national anthems of Romania and Vietnam played, "Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh invited Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu and Mrs Elena Ceausescu to review the VPA honor guard."

Major Vo Chi Thanh, chief of the honor guard, reported to the Romanian guests and also invited them to review the honor guard.

"Comrades Nguyen Van Linh, Vo Chi Cong, Nicolae Ceausescu, Mrs Elena Ceausescu, and other comrades in the Romanian delegation joyfully waved to the representatives of the people of the capital who were present to welcome the delegation."

Meets With Nguyen Van Linh

AU171753 Bucharest AGERPRES in English
1600 GMT 17 Apr 88

[Text] Hanoi, AGERPRES, 17/04/1988—RCP general secretary, president of Romania, Nicolae Ceausescu and Mme Elena Ceausescu met, after the arrival ceremony, Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the CC of the CP of Vietnam, Vo Chi Cong, member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the CPV, president of the Council of State of Vietnam, other members of the Vietnamese party and state leadership who came to welcome the distinguished Romanian guests.

Addressing the messengers of the Romanian people, Nguyen Van Linh stressed that for the entire Vietnam it was a great honour to receive this official goodwill visit. He said that the two parties, countries and peoples had established durable friendly relations long ago, expressing the friendship between the two peoples. I believe that this visit which expresses the friendship between the two peoples, the joint wish to develop these relations, will be another page in the chronicle of the Romanian-Vietnamese ties. Undoubtedly, our talks will end with very good results.

Thanking for the salute and the reception extended, President Nicolae Ceausescu warmly greeted the hosts in

the name of the party and state leadership of Romania. Indeed, said the RCP and Romanian state leaders, traditional friendly links exist between our parties, peoples and countries. We would like this visit to contribute to the continual development of the friendly and cooperative links between our parties, peoples and countries.

The distinguished guests conversed cordially with the general secretary of the CC of the CP of Vietnam. The interview proceeded under the sign of esteem and cordiality shown to the messengers of the Romanian people, of the Romanian-Vietnamese friendship.

Australia

Communique Issued on Ceausescu Visit
AU171352 Bucharest AGERPRES in English
1208 GMT 17 Apr 88

[“Communique”—AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Canberra (AGERPRES) 17 April 1988—The communique on the official visit of President Nicolae Ceausescu and Elena Ceausescu to Australia says that the Romanian head of state met with the governor-general of Australia, Ninian Martin Stephen, and had talks with Australian Prime Minister R.J.L. Hawke in an atmosphere of mutual understanding. During the talks information was exchanged on current concerns for the economic and social development of the two countries and a survey was made of the ways and means of further expanding the links between Romania and Australia. Opinions were exchanged at length on the major international issues.

Full satisfaction was expressed on the occasion, the communique shows, and the belief was expressed that broad possibilities existed to expand trade and mutually advantageous economic cooperation between Romania and Australia, each side's interest being taken into consideration.

Emphasis was placed on the importance of concluding long-term contracts which should give stability and perspective to the economic links between the two countries and the joint wish was voiced to intensify and diversify exchanges and contacts between the two countries in science, technology, education and culture, the communique reads.

During the exchange of views on the problems facing the contemporary world, the communique points out, the president of Romania and the Australian leaders expressed their deep concern over the escalation of the arms race, the persistence of regional conflicts, the deterioration of the world economic situation, which affects the developing countries in particular, over the continuation of the policy of the use and threat of force, of interference in the domestic affairs of other states. In that context, the leaders of the two states declared for the halting of the arms race, for a resolute passage to disarmament, nuclear in the first place, a pacific solution to international conflicts, the guaranteeing of every people's foremost right to solve its own problems in conditions of full freedom and independence.

Romania and Australia welcomed the signing of the treaty between the Soviet Union and the United States of America eliminating the medium and shorter range missiles, the communique shows as the two countries are of the opinion that resolute action should be taken to reach an accord on a 50-per cent reduction of strategical weapons, on the path of completely liquidating nuclear arms, to halt nuclear tests. They consider as necessary

the banning and destruction of chemical weapons, a passage to a radical cut in conventional weapons, troops and military spending in Europe, to strike a balance at ever lower levels.

Romania and Australia—the document goes on—are of the opinion that countries on all continents should be more concerned for the setting up of zones free of nuclear and chemical weapons.

The need was stressed in the communique for a comprehensive, just and durable solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, for the establishment of a lasting peace in the Middle East on the basis of Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, the resolution of the Palestinian people's issue, guaranteed integrity, sovereignty and security of all the states in the area, in keeping with the UN pertinent resolutions. To attain these goals, the two countries declare for the calling of an international peace conference in the Middle East.

Romania and Australia speak for an immediate cessation of the Iran-Iraq war, for the withdrawal of troops, by both sides, to within internationally acknowledged frontiers, for negotiations with a view to peacefully solving the problems between the two states, the communique reads. They condemn the racist policy of apartheid of the authorities in South Africa and demand that an undelayed end be put to all the manifestations of this policy.

The two countries—the document evinces—support the negotiations on Kampuchea and are for a broad national reconciliation among all the Kampuchian forces, for the withdrawal of the foreign troops and an end to any outside interference, propitious conditions being thus created for the Kampuchian people to decide its future by itself.

Romania and Australia, the communique further shows, assessed the progress made in politically solving the situation in Afghanistan, in initiating the withdrawal of foreign troops to the end of ensuring Afghanistan's independence, sovereignty and status of non-aligned country.

The document reiterates Romania's and Australia's position on stepped-up actions for the liquidation of underdevelopment and the bridging of the gap between the rich and poor countries, strengthening of the role of the United Nations Organization in the international life.

The communique evinced the common wish to intensify the cooperation between Romania and Australia in the international arena, at the UN and its specialized agencies.

President Nicolae Ceausescu, and Elena Ceausescu invited the governor-general of Australia, Ninian Martin Stephen, and Prime Minister Robert Hawke to pay, together with their wives, official visits to Romania. The invitations were accepted with pleasure, the communique winds up.

N. Territory Chief Criticized for Base Offer
BK180614 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] An aboriginal leader has criticized the Northern Territory's chief minister for proposing that land over which a claim is outstanding be offered to the American military. The spokesman for Mr Steve Hatton says the minister will write to the prime minister offering the Cox Peninsula, west of Darwin, as an alternative site for American bases in the Philippines.

Mr Hatton's spokesman said an aboriginal claim on the Cox Peninsula was close to being settled, but the Northern Land Council chairman, Mr (Galloway Yunapingu), said the minister is either badly advised or incompetent.

Hayden on Effect of Japan's Coal Price Offer
BK170740 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 17 Apr 88

[Text] The foreign affairs and trade minister, Mr Hayden, says Australia's protest to the Japanese over low prices offered for coal exports has not gone unheeded. Speaking on his return from Tokyo where he has been pushing the case for a better deal for coal exporters, Mr Hayden said he forcefully pointed out the effect the Japanese stance was having. He said in just 18 months, 3,500 miner jobs had gone and 16 mines closed. Mr Hayden told the Japanese that if this continued, the level of coal supplies would be in jeopardy.

Briefs

Mirage Fleet for Sale

Australia's old Mirage jet fighters are being put up for sale. Officials say the Federal Government wants to sell about 50 Mirages. It is expected tenders will be called later this year. The price of about \$100 million [currency not further specified] would include a large inventory of spares and give the buyer what amounts to a large air force. Some countries, such as South Africa, will not be allowed to submit tenders. [Text] *[BK171045 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 17 Apr 88]*

Fiji

Soviet Trade Delegation Begins Visit
BK141105 Hong Kong AFP in English 1050 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] Suva, April 14 (AFP)—A Soviet trade delegation arrived here Thursday during a four-nation tour of the South Pacific, the Fiji Foreign Affairs Department said.

The delegation arrived for two days of trade talks after leaving Tonga and was to proceed to Vanuatu and Papua New Guinea, the Foreign Affairs and Civil Aviation Department said in a statement.

The Soviet delegation met with officials of Fiji's Foreign Affairs and Primary Industries Departments and officials of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Manufacturers' Association, the statement said.

The delegation was to meet Friday with representatives of the Fiji Sugar Corporation and the Fiji Trade and Investment Board.

The leader of the mission is V. Golanov, deputy head of the Soviet Department for Economic Relations in Moscow.

Seeks Joint Ventures
BK150610 Hong Kong AFP in English 0558 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Text] Suva, April 15 (AFP)—A high-level Soviet delegation visiting Fiji has expressed interest in business joint ventures and in the area of fisheries, government sources said Friday.

The fact-finding mission led by V. Golanov, deputy head of the Soviet Department of Economic Relations in Moscow, is the first major Soviet trade delegation to visit Fiji although a previous team visited other South Pacific countries two years ago.

The mission also includes the Canberra-based Soviet ambassador accredited to Suva, V. Valkov.

Since arriving here Thursday for what they described as an "exploratory visit," the Soviets have called on several government ministries but did not meet Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, who was on his way home from a trip to Europe and Taiwan.

The sources said the delegation briefly conferred with Trade and Commerce Minister Berenado Vunibobo and expressed a desire to help Fiji's economy which has been severely affected by last year's two military coups.

A senior government economist who attended the talks said the delegation had proposed that Soviet businesses be encouraged to engage in joint ventures with Fijian businesses.

The economist said all talks were centred solely on trade and that politics were not discussed.

During talks with officials from the Fijian Ministry of Primary Industries, the Soviets showed interest in agriculture and fisheries, he said.

"I think this is one area the Russians are interested in, especially our potential to export fish overseas," he said.

The delegation also met members of the Fiji Chamber of Commerce and the Fiji Manufacturers Association.

Sources said the Soviets explored the possibility of buying 50,000 to 60,000 tonnes of sugar from Fiji this year, but were told Fiji could not supply such an amount because of its commitment to long-term and open markets.

The delegation, which earlier visited Tonga, leaves Fiji Saturday for Vanuatu and Papua New Guinea.

Papua New Guinea

Government Helps Free Indonesian Hostages
BK140740 Hong Kong AFP in English 0735 GMT
14 Apr 88

[Text] Port Moresby, April 14 (AFP)—An outlawed Irian Jayan independence group has freed three Indonesian captives after negotiations with the Papua New Guinea military, the defense minister said here Thursday.

Defence Minister James Pokasui also charged that Indonesian troops crossed the border into Papua New Guinea when they attacked two rebel camps this month.

He told reporters the Free Papua Movement (OPM) rebels handed over their captives at the Papua New Guinea Defense Forces garrison near the border at Vanimo, on north coast, but did not say when.

The OPM rebels were allowed to return to the bush after the handover, he added, but did not say when the Indonesians would be repatriated.

Mr Pokasui told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE the OPM seized the trio on March 11 when the insurgents raided a transmigration settlement across the border at Arso, and that at least one OPM guerrilla was killed in the attack.

He said Papua New Guinea troops had "physically witnessed" Indonesian troops on Papua New Guinea soil when the Indonesians attacked two OPM camps west of Skotiaho Village on April 3 and 4.

He said there was no "confrontation" between the Indonesian and Papua New Guinea forces, but Papua New Guinea troops had gathered evidence of the intrusions, including cartridge shells and rations.

The TIMES OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA newspaper Thursday quoted OPM sources as saying two OPM members were killed in the attacks.

Western Samoa

Prime Minister's Additional Responsibilities
BK150800 Melbourne Overseas Service in English
0500 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Summary] The new prime minister of Western Samoa, Tofilau Eti Alesana, has taken on the added portfolios of justice and the new post of minister in charge public service association. The list of the prime minister's responsibilities was released following his swearing-in. His other portfolios include foreign affairs, internal affairs, police, immigration, and broadcasting.

END OF

FICHE

DATE FILMED

18 April 1988



